Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Instead of awarding it to Integrated Professional Solutions, should the government have had opened the outsourcing of the CNMI's ARRA Office to a bid?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Charitable Donation

Bank of Hawaii has made a donation to the Karidat Social Services through the bank's Charitable Foundation.

Business...Page 14

China Bound

A super typhoon that killed 13 people and flattened forests and crops in the northern Philippines dumped heavy rains on the capital Tuesday as it headed across the sea toward southern China.

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Last Tango

It took Florence Henderson 11 seasons to join "Dancing With the Stars," and now the TV icon has done her last tango.

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Partial payless payday on Friday, again. PAGE 3
Senate poised to override Fitial's line item veto of budget law. PAGE 4

Ada ARRA management contract to go under scrutiny of VP Biden

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has asked the office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan for a copy of the $392,406 sole-source contract awarded to Michael J. Ada's Integrated Professional Solutions LLC for the management of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds in the CNMI, and other related information.

Biden has been tasked by President Obama with implementing the ARRA, which has allowed the CNMI to receive some $100 million.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, in a letter yesterday to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, said the vice president is requesting not only a copy of Ada's contract but other related information as well.

"The vice president's office has also

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Biden

CONGRESSIONAL HONOR
Retired nurse Paz Calvo, right, reads a plaque with a congressional statement honoring 260 nurses who served the CNMI after World War II, while Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan looks on during a brief presentation to the surviving nurses, their families and relatives, at the Commonwealth Health Center yesterday afternoon. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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Pedestrian critical after struck by car

» Witness says he thought victim was a spinning box

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A man is now fighting for his life after a car struck him when he crossed Middle Road in Garapan on Monday night.

The pedestrian, a 42-year-old Chinese national, suffered a fractured skull with severe brain injuries. He was last reported as under observation at the Commonwealth Health

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Independent legal opinion says Glenna still LB director

» Minority leader says speaker 'harassing' Reyes

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

An independent legal opinion that Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) sought states that Glenna SP Reyes continues to be the duly appointed director of the Legislative Bureau unless and until she's removed by a majority vote from each chamber of the Legislature.

"The independent legal opinion which I requested is clear. Mrs. Reyes is still the bureau director unless a majority of the

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Local

Congressional honor presented to 260 local nurses

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan presented a plaque honoring 260 nurses who served the Commonwealth in the years following World War II during a ceremony at the Commonwealth Health Center yesterday.

The plaque and individual certificates of commendation were offered to surviving nurses, their families, and families of nurses who passed away.

"These nurses provided more than medical care. They provided health education to the community and were wholeheartedly admired by those they served. Some of them are survived by descendants, also nurses, still serving our people today," said Sablan during yesterday's presentation.

The congressional tribute recognized nurses who were trained before World War II and during the Japanese colonial era.

One of these nurses was Rosa Blanco Camacho, who many believe was the only one of these pre-war nurses still alive when the congressional commendation was being prepared.

"Nan Chai," as she was affectionately known, continued to share her time and expertise well after she retired, Sablan noted.

"I am saddened that she cannot be here with us, so we could share with her our gratitude for her service and for the many sacrifices she made during her career."

Camacho recently passed away. She was among the honored nurses who served the islands from 1944 to 1978.

Sablan said many of the local nurses were called into the profession in the aftermath of the Marianas Campaign in World War II. There were widespread casualties and a shortage of medical personnel. So the military trained local men and women to care for the wounded.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, left, mingles with the surviving nurses who served the CNMI after World War II, their families and relatives, after presenting them with a plaque with his congressional statement honoring 260 nurses, at a ceremony held at the Commonwealth Health Center yesterday afternoon.

In the years that followed, this cadre of nurses and core men became the backbone of medical care in the islands, though they faced many challenges. They lacked training and resources were limited. But unfazed, these nurses turned the challenges into a driving force that motivated them to acquire additional knowledge and expertise to improve health standards in the community.

According to Sablan's statement, as the population in the Northern Mariana Islands grew in the 1960s and 1970s, there was a corresponding demand for more nurses and health facilities. Public health dispensaries were opened in some villages on Saipan, all of them staffed by nurses; and health centers on Tinian and Rota were created and then expanded.

Sablan thanked Paz Calvo and Liz Untalan, who assisted his office in collecting the names of the 260 individuals who were honored.

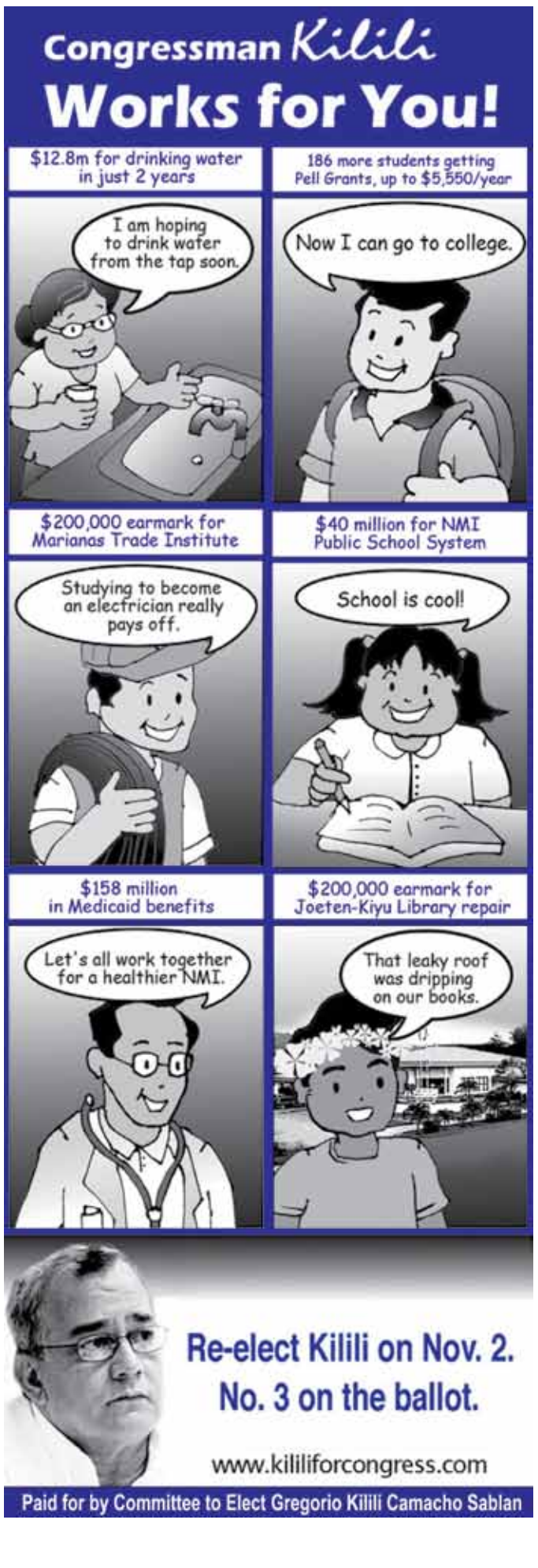
"We cannot repay their selflessness. But we can honor what they have done for our people and our community," he said, adding that a copy of the congressional tribute will be displayed in each of the health centers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"More than anything it is my hope that this recognition will inspire the next generation of nurses," said Sablan.

Also present during the ceremony was Public Health Secretary Kevin Joseph Villagomez who commended the congressional delegate for his gesture.

"For the longest period of time, the key zone of health care delivery is the nurses, who served 24 hours. Doctors are very critical component… but the foundation that holds it together is really the nurses and nurse practitioners. This is a wonderful tribute to a lot of our nurses," said Villagomez, adding that some of the 260 honored nurses voluntarily serve the health department up to now.

He said there is still time to include names of nurses that served in the NMI from 1944-1978, for more information contact Tony Cabrera at the Saipan District Office at 323-2647/8 or by email at tony.cabrera@mail.house.gov.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Partial payless payday on Friday, again

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Only critical service and federal funded employees will again receive their paychecks on time this Friday as the government's cash shortage continues to worsen.

"All others are expected to receive their payroll on Tuesday," press secretary Angel Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

This, even as non-essential government employees will only be paid 28 to 32 hours because of the partial government shutdown that left over 1,400 employees temporarily without work.

For the over 1,400 non-essential government employees, they would be paid for only four days because of the government shutdown starting on Oct. 1. That's equivalent to 32 hours.

Government operations went back to normal only on Oct. 12 because Oct. 11 was a holiday. The governor signed the bill on Oct. 10, two days after the Legislature passed the bill—or way past the Sept. 30 deadline.

Because some of the affected non-essential government employees are in the Executive Branch, their work hours had since been seven a day, for a total of only 28 hours for four days paid.

"It is one thing that our salaries will be delayed again. But knowing that we would get paid for only 28 hours, that's something else. It will really hurt my family. It won't be enough to cover my family's expenses for food, utilities, and other bills," one of the Executive Branch employees said.

The government needs some $4 million every payroll to pay its employees, including those in the central government, Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

But to meet the payroll for the critical service employees alone, the government needs some $1 million to $1.5 million.

Oct. 22 will be the fifth partial payless payday in CNMI history, as a result of declining government revenue. The previous ones were on the paydays of June 18, Sept. 10, Sept. 24, and Oct. 8.

CNMI government revenue has steadily declined in the past years. From over $200 million just a few years ago, the annual projected revenue has continuously dropped until it reached only $137 million in FY 2010 and to $132 million in FY 2011.

DPH to hold back preventive health campaigns, infrastructure upgrades

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health will not expand any of its health programs and will hold off planned infrastructure projects because of its limited budget for fiscal year 2011.

"Because of funding shortage, we may hold back some services like the preventive care and won't expand programs. We are also holding back some improvements or infrastructure developments and other services and let the federal grants deal with it," DPH Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez said yesterday.

The health chief said that DPH's allotment for the fiscal year will go directly to patient care, medication, supplies, and payment to health care providers.

Villagomez said this year's budget is much less than previous years. He added that DPH spends between $1 million and $2 million in preventive health care services each year.

Preventive health care services include diabetes programs, public education on health programs, advertising and campaigns, as well as blood pressure monitoring.

Villagomez said that CNMI-DPH is not alone in dealing with financial challenges in operating the hospital.

Saipan Tribune learned that Villagomez was supposed to travel to Colorado for the nationwide meeting of health directors in 30 other states, but did not do so because of the financial condition of the government.

However, Villagomez said health chiefs in various states sent their message expressing their support to DPH.

"They responded to me that they feel for us…and we are not alone. There are about 30 other health directors facing the same challenges on health care," said Villagomez.

He said DPH, with the limited budget allocation, will live within its means for the rest of the fiscal year.

However, Villagomez said that if there's a need to request for more funding, DPH will make the necessary action in order to ensure the continuity of service in the hospital.

'No promotion, salary increase'

Villagomez also told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that even salary adjustments and promotions for hospital staff are on hold until DPH gets more funding.

"Promotion and salary increases are the last thing on my mind now [with the budget situation]…" he said, admitting receiving letters of request for the purpose.

The hospital earlier planned to provide salary adjustment to deserving medical personnel to address the high turnover rate of medical employees at the department. But with the tight appropriation, this may not happen in the current fiscal year, according to the health chief.

The exodus of physicians in the lone public hospital on island is blamed on the unattractive salary and benefits offered to qualified candidates.

To date, Villagomez said there now are enough physicians onboard at the hospital.

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Senate poised to override Fitial's line item veto of budget law

» Froilan says 'no way' House leadership will approve it

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Senate leadership is poised to override Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's line-item veto of a $360,000 subsidy for Rota and Tinian charter flights and tourism promotion in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget law.

Senators said yesterday that the line-item vetoed provision in the $132 million budget law does not increase or decrease the appropriation of the Marianas Visitors Authority.

The provision that the Senate inserted into the contentious budget measure would only make sure that $360,000 of the "all others" appropriation of MVA will go into subsidizing Rota and Tinian charter flights and pay for outstanding obligations to travel partners.

House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), when asked for comment yesterday, said the House leadership will not override the line-item veto.

"No way. The House leadership will not override the governor's line-item veto. We all know that the government is running out of money," he said.

The Senate is set to hold a session this afternoon.

Under the Senate's proposal that Fitial line-item vetoed, the $360,000 under MVA's "all others" appropriation will be allocated as follows:

- $120,000 to subsidize the charter flights from Japan to Rota under the expenditure authority of the MVA chairman;
- $120,000 to promote and market Tinian as a tourist destination under the expenditure authority of the MVA chairman; and
- $120,000 to pay the outstanding KNT account for completed charter flights from Japan to Rota under the expenditure authority of the MVA chairman.

Fitial said instead of approving subsidies for charter flights to Rota, the administration urged greater legislative collaboration in assisting MVA in its effort to effectively promote the CNMI as a single destination.

Tinian and Saipan also face immense challenges with charter flights to the respective islands, he said.

"Subsidizing charter flights for one island and/or one company may lead to subsidies for the other islands as well, but more importantly, may lead to government subsidies in other private efforts in the CNMI," the governor added.

The House and the Senate were deadlocked for weeks on the $132 million budget mainly because of work hour cuts. The deadlock went on until the government had to partially shut down for a lack of a budget passed and signed by the Sept. 30 deadline. The shutdown left over 1,400 government employees temporarily out of job for days.

GAO's new minimum wage impact study underway

The U.S. Government Accountability Office is conducting a new minimum wage increase impact study for the CNMI for its next report even as the 2011 increase will be deferred.

GAO is the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress.

A three-member GAO team is currently on island: senior analyst Marissa W. Jones, senior economist Dr. Pedro A. Almoguera, and analyst Nalylee Padilla.

They were at the Society for Human Resource Management-CNMI Chapter's general membership meeting yesterday to give a brief presentation of the results of GAO's wage study released in April this year.

In that report, GAO said the annual inflation-adjusted earnings of CNMI minimum wage workers who retained their jobs and full hours rose by about 12 percent from 2006 to 2008 as a result of the 50-cent minimum wage hikes that began in 2007.

The GAO team also asked SHRM member-employers about the steps they have taken to respond to the minimum wage increase, among other things.

GAO will also be distributing survey questionnaires and hold discussion groups, among other things, as part of its study on the impact of the minimum wage increase.

GAO's visit comes a few weeks after the Sept. 30 increase in the CNMI's minimum wage—from $4.55 to $5.05 an hour.

A new law signed by Obama defers next year's 50-cent increase and will resume in 2012. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

PEDESTRIAN

From Page 1

Center's intensive care unit as of yesterday.

Saipan Tribune checked CHC late yesterday afternoon and gathered that the victim has been hooked to a life support system.

The driver, a 55-year-old Bangladeshi national, was not injured. He was not arrested or given citations, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

A source said the driver is an owner of a store in Garapan.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. said yesterday that speed and alcohol have been ruled out on the part of the driver.

Blas said the pedestrian had a blood alcohol content of .213 percent.

The legal BAC limit in the CNMI is .08 percent.

Blas said that, on Monday at 9:06pm, DPS received a call about an auto-pedestrian crash along Chalan Pale Arnold (Middle Road) near Century Hotel/Shirley's Coffee Shop.

At-scene investigation conducted by Traffic Officer Sandy Hambros showed that the pedestrian was struck by a northbound white 1993 Toyota Tercel four-door sedan in the inner northbound lane.

The pedestrian was crossing the road and heading east from the west bound shoulder.

Medics and traffic investigators were summoned to the scene. The pedestrian was treated at the scene and taken to CHC.

At CHC, doctors learned that the victim had sustained multiple head fractures with severe brain injuries.

Traffic Investigator Norris Kwon processed the crash scene.

The vehicle was impounded. It had damage to its lower left front windshield.

"The crash is still under investigation to determine the cause," Blas said.

Witness Lino Tenorio Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that on Saturday night he parked his car in front of Century Hotel when he heard an impact.

Tenorio said when he looked around he saw the victim spinning on the road.

"I thought it's a box," said Tenorio, a former corrections officer.

He said when he walked closer to the scene, he saw a pair of shoes off the victim's feet.

Tenorio said the driver stopped his car then reversed so he shouted at him not to leave the scene.

Tenorio said he also shouted at the employees of a nearby vegetable store to call the police.

The former corrections officer said the victim had pulse when he checked him, but he observed that the head was cracked open.

He said a police officer immediately responded and medics later arrived.

Tenorio believed that the pedestrian came from the vegetable store and crossed the road.

A Korean man died two days later after a vehicle struck him when he crossed the road in front of the Mom's Round Two Bar in Garapan last Oct. 2.

The pedestrian had a BAC of .213 percent, according to the police.

In that case, traffic investigator Kwon also ruled out speed and alcohol on the part of the driver, a 19-year-old Chuukese.

GLENNA

From Page 1

House and Senate decide to remove her," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) reiterated yesterday that Reyes' contract expired when no budget was passed on Oct. 1.

He had said there is no language permitting a later renewal if a budget eventually is passed with funds for the director's position.

Tenorio said while he's willing to retain Reyes, "majority of my colleagues don't want her."

At the same time, House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) wrote a letter to Tenorio yesterday, objecting to the speaker's order to Reyes to vacate her office by Oct. 19.

Benavente said despite the clear language of the Constitution requiring majority vote of each house to remove the director and that the LB should be free from any political harassment or pressure, the speaker continues to "unilaterally afflict political pressure and order the director to vacate her office.

The minority leader accused Tenorio of playing games with Reyes, who is the wife of Senate floor leader Pete Reyes.

"It is common knowledge in the Legislature you gave Mrs. Reyes your blessings as the director for the next fiscal year during the Senate deliberations of your casino bill. But when the Senate rejected your casino bill, you obviously changed your mind and continue to harass Mrs. Reyes. Your actions are uncalled for and are tantamount to harassing the director in violation of the CNMI Constitution," Benavente told Tenorio.

Private attorney Mark B. Hanson provided Manglona yesterday with a six-page legal opinion on Reyes's current status as LB director and the procedures necessary for her removal from her position as director.

"In sum, it is my opinion that Ms. Reyes was properly appointed to an indefinite position as director of the Legislative Bureau and that Ms. Reyes continues to be the duly appointed director of the Legislative Bureau unless and until properly removed as provided in Article II, Section 17(d) of the Constitution," Hanson told Manglona.

Hanson said proper removal would require a majority vote in the Senate and a majority vote in the House of Representatives.

He based his opinion on documentation regarding Reyes' appointment to the director's post, her employments contracts with the LB, the CNMI Constitution and other applicable laws, rules and regulations.

Tenorio also said yesterday that he will be sending to Manglona the House leadership's appointment letter for former senator Maria Frica Pangelinan as new LB director.

Because Tenorio has also sought advice from the Department of Finance, among other things, he had to postpone sending the appointment letter to Senate.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), in a separate phone interview yesterday, said he will not sign off on Pangelinan's appointment letter because the LB director's position is not vacant.

Tenorio said one other member of the House leadership—Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan)—has not signed off on the appointment letter as of yesterday.

Torres also cited the CNMI Constitution, which requires that the bureau director be appointed by the joint leadership of the Legislature consisting of the presiding officers, vice presiding officers, floor leaders, and the chairmen of the standing committees.

Tenorio asked Reyes on Monday to vacate her office by Tuesday, but Reyes did not do so and retained a private attorney, Robert T. Torres, with respect to this issue.

BIDEN

From Page 1

asked for information about the specific agency account from which this contract is funded, the specific funding amounts, and whether the CNMI Department of Commerce made the local award or some other agency of the CNMI government," Sablan told Fitial.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment yesterday, said the Fitial administration "will be contacting the vice president's office to provide the information it is requesting."

Sablan earlier wrote to Biden to express concern regarding the contract for the management of ARRA funds that the CNMI governor awarded on a no-bid, sole-source basis.

The delegate said the company that was awarded the contract reportedly did not have a business license at the time of the award, and which is to be headed up by the individual who was, until a few days ago, was the CNMI Commerce secretary and the person responsible for management of ARRA funds.

Ada obtained a business license for IPS on Oct. 14, a day after the processing of the company's sole-source contract was completed.

The sole-source contract is for 18 months.

Sablan said he is not in a position to make any judgment on the particular circumstances of the sole-source contract for ARRA management in the CNMI.

But he sought the advice of the Recovery Act's office "on how to ensure that any challenge to this no-bid, sole-source contract that may arise will not result in an interruption of the use or availability of the Recovery Act funds that have been generating new jobs, as well as saving existing ones, and spurring economic activity" in the CNMI.

"Your administration has made rigorous efforts to avoid any fraud or abuse in the management and implementation of ARRA funds," Sablan told Biden in an Oct. 19 letter.

Fitial appointed Ada to become Commerce secretary when he came into office and later also appointed Ada to manage the ARRA program in the CNMI.

However, Ada was only paid some $43,000 for his job as Commerce secretary and was not receiving a single cent as ARRA state lead.

The Fitial administration said many jurisdictions across the U.S. have outsourced the management of ARRA to large consulting firms but Fitial had said the CNMI was not in a financial position to follow suit at the onset of the ARRA program.

Moreover, the Fitial administration said Ada has an advantage among other possible bidders should the government bids out the management of the ARRA program, because of Ada's extensive and historic knowledge of the program. The governor said the government will not risk losing some $100 million in ARRA funding just because there's no continuity of effective management of ARRA in the CNMI.

The Fitial administration said people have to understand that the $392,406 contract is not only for Ada but for his employees and operational expenses, such as office and car leases, employees insurance and employee salaries.

Ada said his private consulting firm retained three of four ARRA program employees. He said he didn't absorb the program manager because the position will duplicate his post.

A government official who has spent several years in procurement matters said yesterday that the program manager that was not absorbed by IPS may also be knowledgeable about the ARRA program and could have also responded to a bid had the government put out a bid for the management of the ARRA funds.

Medicare dismisses discrimination case vs DPH

'Election commission can accept unsigned affidavits'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Assistant Attorney General Meaghan Hassel Shearer yesterday assured confused absentee voters that their ballots would be counted in the election next month despite the lack of their signature on the affidavits.

This after the election commission received calls from absentee voters who are worried on the confusing instructions sent to them by the agency.

"Recently, some of the CNMI's absentee voters have notified the Commonwealth Election Commission of their confusion over the instructions included in their absentee ballot packet. Unfortunately, this confusion has led absentee voters to leave the affidavit included in their packet without affixing their signature," admitted Hassel Shearer to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

She explained that under 1 CMC § 6213, "the legislature has given the election commissioners the authority to accept ballots without signed affidavits."

"Accordingly, in order to ensure that voters are allowed to practice their fundamental right to vote, the CEC will be accepting absentee ballots with affidavits that were un-signed, provided that all other information and requirements are satisfied. For those individuals who have yet to send in their absentee ballots, please ensure that your affidavits include your signature," she added.

As of Oct. 14, the commission recorded a total of 998 registered absentee voters on its website. The number is expected to increase as deadline to receive absentee request is until today, Oct. 21. The commission also recorded a total of 16,603 registered voters including absentee voters for this congressional election.

Early this week, many off-island voters expressed their worry that their votes may not be counted in the upcoming congressional election because of what they described as confusing and erroneous instruction from the election commission which resulted to unsigned affidavits.

According to Commission of Election executive director Robert A. Guerrero, the provision is to ensure that the voter checks the packet to ensure that there are no marks on it upon receipt.

"That was the reason for the statement 'Do not sign the form at this time.' The provision to ensure the voter signs the affidavit after full review of the packet was unintentionally left out," Guerrero earlier explained.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez confirmed yesterday that the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has dismissed a discrimination complaint filed by some community members.

"They sent me the letter this week saying they found no evidence that we're guilty of the charge or we're practicing discriminatory process. I really commend the Medicaid office for the decision," said Villagomez yesterday, adding that DPH's Medicaid service does not intend to cater to a specific ethnicity such as Chamorros and Carolinians.

Villagomez said that Medicare's Civil Action Office handled the inspection and probe and results were released last week.

Villagomez

"The complaint was filed through the Medicaid office accusing the public health of practicing discriminatory method in distribution of Medicaid [cards and services]," admitted Villagomez.

Saipan Tribune learned that investigation ran from March through September and DPH was satisfied with the findings of the federal agency.

"That's not the role and function of Medicaid…and I am glad that an independent civil rights action office came out with the decision," he added.

Villagomez said the complaint filed is separate from the one that was investigated by Medicare in January which resulted to the resurvey of the hospital.

It was from the particular January complaint when Medicare found serious deficiencies in the hospital's services that threatened to terminate its accreditation with Medicare.

A resurvey was conducted last month by Medicare and the results led to the lifting of the jeopardy status in a number of areas in the hospital.

"That report has not been submitted to us…but it's coming out soon. We're confident that we're complying with the standards and requirements. With or without the Medicare citations, we always work out for improvements in our services," said Villagomez.

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Saipan Tribune

Police hunting down ex-convict for 'ice' trafficking allegations

Police are hunting down an ex-convict who has a pending warrant of arrest on charges he has been trafficking methamphetamine or "ice" again on Saipan.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. said yesterday that on Monday Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman issued the warrant of arrest for Junding Qiu, a Chinese national, for illegal possession of a controlled substance, and trafficking of a controlled substance.

Qiu

Blas said the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives have been looking for Qui, but have yet to locate him from his last known address.

"DPS is asking the community for assistance in locating Qiu who at this time is still at large. Anyone with information as to the whereabouts of Qiu is asked to call the CIB at 664-9042/45," Blas said.

On June 30, 2010, Wiseman sentenced Qiu to 257 days in prison for illegal possession of "ice" in 2009.

The defendant was given credit for 257 days he already spent in jail. It means that he was released from the Department of Corrections last June 30.

Meanwhile, police arrested over the weekend an ex-convict for allegedly cultivating marijuana plants at his residence located within 1,000 feet from San Roque Elementary School.

Benedicto T. Lizama, 38, was arrested for illegal possession of controlled substance, and trafficking of controlled substance.

On Monday, Wiseman imposed a bail of $250 cash plus $4,750 on Lizama.

Customs Officer Sean White stated in his report that on Sunday he and a detective proceeded to the house of Lizama after receiving information from a concerned citizen that he is cultivating marijuana at his house.

White said they saw one marijuana tree above a tin wall adjacent to the defendant's semi-concrete house. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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SERENITY SALON & SPA

Half a decade of making Saipan look good and feel good

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CLARISSA V. DAVID
The highly trained and friendly staff at Serenity Salon and Spa. From left, Angie, therapist; Mercy, senior hair therapist; Venus, senior stylist and all-around beautician; Michelle, hair stylist and all-around beautician; Analyn, therapist and facialist; and Pinky, senior therapist and facialist. Serenity Salon & Spa celebrates its fifth year anniversary with an anniversary promotion. All customers get 50-percent discount for every second service from Oct. 21 to 24.

The TBK Group of Companies has all the reasons to celebrate. One of its subsidiaries, the widely popular and trendy Serenity Salon & Spa, has been dolling up a vast number of customers since it opened in October 2005.

This year, Serenity Salon & Spa marks its five-year milestone by showing appreciation to its patrons for their unwavering loyalty by means of an anniversary promotion that's too hard to resist.

From Oct. 21 to 24, all guests who avail of any of its services will get 50-percent discount for every second service.

This anniversary promo encompasses all services offered at Serenity Salon & Spa, from its signature and aroma massages, anti-aging and deep cleansing facials to body scrubs, all kinds of waxing, nail care, and every type of hair treatment.

"This is our way of thanking all our customers for their continued patronage of Serenity Salon & Spa," salon owner and manager Nenita Ta told *Saipan Tribune*.

In addition to the anniversary promo, Ta said guests can also avail of their wide array of beauty packages that range in price from $50 to $100.

For example, one can avail of Package F for only $50. This already includes anti-aging facial, Serenity signature massage, and a hair/scalp treatment.

Add a few more bucks and avail of Package A which additionally has manicure/pedicure and a body scrub with honey body polish at $100.

Ta said their newest package is the anti-aging facial treatment with Diamond Peel, a fast and pain-free non-surgical skin exfoliation treatment. Customers are charged $200 per five sessions of this special facial treatment.

The proud salon owner said the successful Serenity Salon and Spa located at the second floor of Dollar Days Wholesale building in Garapan pretty much started from humble beginnings.

"We only had five salon staff on a smaller salon space back in 2005. Because of the bad economy, only two of them stayed," narrated Ta.

But Ta wanted to keep the beauty salon that she worked so hard for. "I decided to hire another hairstylist, and we continued providing customers with quality salon service but at a lower cost," she said.

Before long, the small salon space quickly gained a more solid and regular customer base and became a populated spot that required additional space, services, and personnel.

Serenity Salon & Spa takes pride in having the latest, the most modern machines and facilities as well as six highly qualified stylists, beauticians and facial experts that provide its customers with excellent salon and spa services.

"Here at Serenity Salon & Spa, our commitment is to treat our customers very well and give them the best salon experience in every visit," said Ta.

Just recently, Serenity Salon & Spa had undergone a major renovation that resulted to a salon extension and additional facial and body scrub rooms to meet the needs of its ever-growing clientele.

What's more, the successful salon and spa plans on expanding its services by having another branch at the Micro Beach Hotel which is anticipated to accommodate the tourists in the island's central district.

When asked about Serenity's secret to success, Ta said she is just overwhelmed by what her salon and spa has accomplished after five years.

"Five years and we still provide customers with quality service at affordable prices at Serenity. We guarantee that we will continue to do that in the years to come. Serenity Salon & Spa is a one-stop shop where they can be pampered from head to toe. We'll make you look good and feel good," said Ta.

Ta encouraged the public to join them in their celebration and visit the salon to avail of their packages and anniversary promo suited for them.

Serenity Salon & Spa is open from Mondays to Sundays, from 10am to 8pm. Gift certificates are available and major credit cards are accepted. For appointments, call 233-6688, 2288 or 2828.

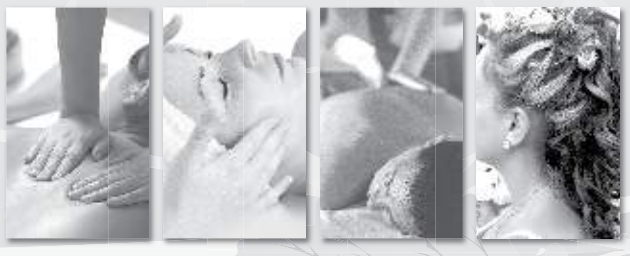
ADVERTISING Feature

5th Anniversary Promo
Serenity Salon & Spa
October 21, 22, 23, & 24

Package A $100.00	Package B $100.00
Serenity Signature Massage	Anti-Aging Facial
Body Scrub w/ Honey Body Polish	Diamond Peel
Anti-Aging Facial	Body Scrub w/ Honey Body Polish
Manicure-Pedicure	Serenity Signature Massage
Scalp/Hair Treatment	Hair/Scalp Treatment
Package C $80.00	**Package D $75.00**
Anti-Aging Facial	Anti-Aging Facial
Diamond Peel	Diamond Peel
Body Scrub w/ Honey Body Polish	Serenity Signature Massage
Hair/Scalp Treatment	Hair/Scalp Treatment
Package E $50.00	**Package F $50.00**
Anti-Aging Facial	Anti-Aging Facial
Diamond Peel	Serenity Signature Massage
Hair/Scalp Treatment	Hair/Scalp Treatment

SPECIAL PACKAGE
5 Anti-Aging Facial + 5 Diamond Peel $200.00

1/2 PRICE FOR EVERY SECOND SERVICE



WEEKLY SPECIAL:

MONDAY:	BODY MASSAGE	$ 20.00
TUESDAY:	MEN'S HAIR CUT	$ 5.00
	LADIES' HAIR CUT	$ 8.00
WEDNESDAY:	FACIAL	$ 20.00
THURSDAY:	HAIR SPA	$ 15.00

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2/F Dollar Days Building, Garapan, Saipan

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Now Only! $4.59 per lb.

CAB CHUCK ROAST
Now Only! $2.99 per lb.

US PORK RIBS 5 UP
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US PORL CHOP END CUT
Now Only! $1.89 per lb.

AMARAL CHAMORRO SAUSAGE (HOT/REG)
Now Only! $4.99 per pkg.

CHICKEN THIGH BNLS SKIN ON
Now Only! $1.69 per lb.

WHOLE CHICKEN WOGS 3-4#
Now Only! $1.29 per lb.

SEA PORT TILAPIA FILLET 7-9oz.
Now Only! $3.29 per lb.

SEA KING SMOKED ROUNDSCAD
Now Only! $1.89 each

PACIFIC SURF PEELED SHRIMP 12oz.
Now Only! $3.99 each

BAKESHOP

SF DONUTS
Now Only! $0.30 each

SF SPONGE CAKE
Now Only! $0.79 each

SF WHOLE WHEAT LOAF BREAD
Now Only! $1.25 each

SF WHEAT ROLLS
Now Only! $0.99 each

GROCERY

DM WHOLE KERNEL CORN 15.25oz.
Now Only! $0.99 each

DM CREAM STYLE CREAM CORN 15.25oz.
Now Only! $0.99 each

WF TOMATO KETCHUP 24oz.
Limit 3pcs.
Now Only! $0.99 each

ASSRTD WF PIZZA 6.5 oz.
Now Only! $0.99 each

ASSRTD WF FLAVORED JUICE 64oz.
Now Only! $2.79 each

HEFTY FOAM PLATES 8" 50ct.
Now Only! $3.89 pkg.

ASSRTD QUAKER CAP' CRUNCH CEREALS
Now Only! $3.79 each

GUAM ROSE CALROSE RICE 20LBS
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GUAM ROSE CALROSE RICE 50LBS
Now Only! $17.99 bag

PRODUCE

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Now Only! $1.29 per lb.

US RED DELICIOUS APPLE
Now Only! $1.09 per lb.

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Now Only! $2.99 per lb.

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Coupon must be presented at time of order.
Limit one coupon per group. Some conditions apply.
Expires: 10/31/2010

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Coupon must be presented at time of order.
Limit one coupon per group. Some conditions apply.
Expires: 10/31/2010

Oct. 17 to 23 is Teen Read Week

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores is joined by junior and high school students, library schools' staff, and Joeten-Kiyu Public Library staff during yesterday's proclamation signing designating Oct. 17 to 23 as Teen Read Week.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores challenged teenagers to read more as he signed a proclamation yesterday morning designating Oct. 17 to 23 as Teen Read Week on the island.

Students and library representatives from Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Kagman High School as well as the staff of Joeten-Kiyu Public Library witnessed the proclamation signing held at the mayor's conference room in San Antonio.

"Challenge yourself to have time to read. Lesser video and movie time means more reading time for all of you," Flores addressed the students during the proclamation signing.

The mayor emphasized the importance of reading, saying that the ability to read and process information is a basic survival skill in the global information society.

According to Flores, the reading proficiency of teenagers on the island has remained stagnant in the last 30 years.

"The number of students who can read but choose not to do so is increasing," he said in the proclamation.

Flores said the most effective way to improve reading skills is to read regularly and often and that regular daily reading for fun creates reading habit for life.

"I strongly encourage all teens to read for the fun of it," said Flores, adding that parents, teachers, librarians, and all concerned adults can serve as role models for the students.

Some of the students expressed their views about reading during the proclamation signing.

Mereylen Denora, Saipan Southern High School Book Club president, said reading serves as a bonding activity for people from all walks of life.

Fifteen-year old Richie Xu, also a reading advocate from Saipan Southern High School, said students should visit the library often as it has different learning programs that equip students with necessary skills and tools to help them succeed.

Jemma T. Lara, an 11th grader at Kagman High School, asserted that there is a need to interest more people to read different kinds of books which would help them open their minds.

"As your state public library, we are privileged to support all these students. I'd like to think that Teen Read is celebrated every day at the library," said Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Oliver Gonzales.

By working and collaborating together, Gonzales said they can continue to promote teen reading and help bring reading to the different villages on the island.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BID
MVA-IFB-10-2305

For: Printing of Customs Forms

Closing Date: October 26, 2010 Time: 1:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Managing Director of the Marianas Visitors Authority are soliciting bids from qualified individuals or firms to print the CNMI Customs Declaration forms.

The scope of work may be picked up at the Marianas Visitors Authority in San Jose, Saipan during working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

All bids must be signed, sealed and marked MVA-IFB-10-2305 and submitted with one (1) original and two (2) copies and must be received at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m., Saipan Time, October 26, 2010.

Preference is available to U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid of if preference is claimed.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment of the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is asking for your comments on the following proposed amendments (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map of sheet #23 from Village Residential to Mixed Commercial: This includes lot 409-1-R1 in As Terlaje, located on Msgr. Guerrero Road just north of, and down the hill from, the Northern Marianas College. Request was made by Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: **Monday, October 25, 2010**
Time: **6:00 pm**
Place: **Zoning Office conference room**

The proposed map change may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan or on Zoning Board website: www.zoning.gov.mp (publications page). After the public hearing, the Zoning Board will make a decision on whether to approve the change to the Official Zoning Map.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, October 25 2010. Send written comments via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Mr. Douglas Wyatt at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chairperson

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Commonwealth Zoning Board will be held on Monday, October 25, 2010 at 6:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
5. Communications
6. Public Comments

B. Reports
1. Chairperson
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Administrator
5. Committees
6. Legal Counsel

C. Public Hearing.
1. A request by Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. to rezone lot# 409-1-R1 in the village of As Terlaje from "Village Residential" to "Mixed Commercial". This site is located on Msgr Guerrero Road just north of, and down the hill from, the Northern Marianas College. The rezoning will extend a "Mixed Commercial" district to the north across lot 398 & 400 and then capture lots 409-1-R1, 409-1-1, and 409-1-R/W which are owned by the applicants. Lots E.A. 829, H157, and 409-2 would then be rezoned from "Village Residential" to "Village Commercial".

D. Old Business.
1. None

E. New Business.
1. Text amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008. Staff will review certain sections

F. Executive (Closed) Session. None

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the special meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chair, Zoning Board

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 21, 1999

SGMA: activist ignores reforms in Saipan garment industry

Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association Executive Director Richard A. Pierce has protested an opinion piece by human rights activist Medea Benjamin, which described Saipan as part of the world's "global sweatshops." But Pierce praised the author, the director of the San Francisco-based Global Exchange, for focusing on improving factory conditions rather than boycotting products. He noted that PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) has started the monitoring of SGMA member factories for exactly that purpose. Pierce said PWC supplements the present efforts of the US Departments of Labor, Justice and Interior, the CNMI's Department of Labor and Immigration and inspections carried out by garment retailers who buy products made on Saipan.

McPhetres asks gov't to continue funding scholarship program

Outgoing college president Agnes McPhetres has expressed support for the Legislature's proposal to boost funding for the government's scholarship program, saying the Northern Marianas College is not yet prepared to offer higher education. "As long as the government cannot provide the adequate higher education here in the CNMI such as the last two years of education, I think the government should be able to provide those assistance for students who want to pursue higher education," said McPhetres, who is retiring as NMC president in December. She also said the scholarship program should be made available to all students regardless of their families' financial status.

Oct. 21, 2002

'Expect major CUC reorganization'

Officials at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. have begun consultations on the planned massive reorganization of the agency. CUC board member Herman P. Sablan said the CUC reshuffle is a priority in order to achieve a more responsive and better-managed utility firm. Sablan met with his committee members Friday to discuss the issue. Sablan said the upcoming reorganization would be major. "It's like overhauling everything to make sure that we don't stay the same as we were 10 years ago. Things must change for the better," he said. He said he has advised all program managers to begin looking at their respective offices and make the necessary assessment.

Reyes: $47M to $189M is still growth

To appreciate the true picture of where the international investments of the NMI Retirement Fund are now, they should be looked at based on how much the Fund started out with and where it is now. This was stressed by Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes, who said that, although there has been a considerable decline in the Fund's investments in the last few months due to the soft economy, it's not time to panic yet. "If you take a look at the entire market of the United States, we are hooked to that program, so definitely, if it goes up, we go up, if it goes down, we go down. But the important thing for people to understand is, when the Retirement Fund put up their $47 million in 1983, how much is it now?" he asked.

Oct. 21, 2003

CUC raises budget request for two Rota transformers

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is asking its Board of Directors anew to approve a budget increase for the purchase of two transformers for Rota. The increase-from $95,000 to $105,000-is reportedly meant for related shipping costs. The transformers would be purchased from Australia. Earlier this year, the board instructed the CUC management to reprogram or identify some $25,000 for the purchase of the items. The amount was eventually increased to $50,000-the maximum reprogramming limit of the CUC executive director. During its recent meeting, the CUC board approved the CUC management's budget allocation request of $95,000 for the equipment purchase.

DLNR proposes to upgrade tourist sites

Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Thomas Pangelinan has asked Gov. Juan N. Babauta for support to upgrade facilities at popular tourist sites, including The Grotto, Bird Island, Forbidden Island Overlook, the summit at Mt. Tapochou and several beach parks. The development of the Forbidden Island Overlook, according to Pangelinan, includes building an observation tower on the 265-foot (above sea level) cliff line with telescopes to view the entire Kagman forest, Forbidden Island and far out to sea.

DUE TO 16-HOUR WORK CUTS

Public library to close on Tuesdays

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Beginning next week, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on Tuesdays in compliance with the 16-hour work cuts for some government employees.

"With the reduced working hours, it is very unfortunate that we have to close the library every Tuesday starting next week," said Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Oliver DLR Gonzales.

According to Gonzales, the public library will be open on Wednesdays from 11am to 7pm, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am to 5pm, and Saturdays from 9am to 4pm.

The public library will also be closed on Sundays, Mondays, and holidays.

Gonzales told *Saipan Tribune* that the new library schedule is "a wakeup call for all of us islanders because we are too spoiled."

"This is happening for a reason. We have become absorbed in a materialistic, consumer-driven world. This will help bring us back to what really island life is about and celebrate the beauty around us," he said.

Gonzales said people should translate less library time to more quality time with family and friends.

"It's about time to strengthen relationships with family and friends and strengthen our spiritual life as well. We should all live simply based on needs, not wants," he said.

Gonzales pointed out that the new library schedule does not equate to lesser reading time for their patrons.

"Library patrons can continue reading in their schools and homes. They can avail of library books through the Book Mobile and other outreach programs that we have," he said.

The executive director urged the public not to get mad and point fingers because of the library situation.

"Instead, we should celebrate life and remember the love and spiritual side of humanity," said Gonzales.

DPS acting commissioner orders public display of recovered items

Department of Public Safety acting commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro yesterday ordered a public display of recovered and presumed stolen items.

Ogumoro said the display would be in front of the main DPS building in Susupe from 9am to 3pm this Saturday, Oct. 23.

The acting commissioner encouraged anyone who may have been a victim of a burglary, theft or robbery within 2000 to 2008 to take advantage of this opportunity.

Ogumoro said victims should bring any proof of ownership such as receipts, pictures, DPS complaint reference cards or anything confirming rightful ownership of such properties.

DPS spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas said the items to be displayed are electrical appliances, TV, VCR/DVD players, power tools, laptops/computers, stereo equipments, gardening tools, large generator, and other small items of value.

Blas said the items were procured as a result of numerous search and seizure operations conducted by the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau.

The cases, he said, spanned from investigating narcotics activities, burglary, theft and robbery during the eight-year period.

"For any questions please call CIB Office at 664-9042/45," Blas said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Application for Energy Star Rebate Program now open

The CNMI Energy Division Office will begin accepting applications for its Energy Star Rebate Program on Oct. 27, 2010.

The program is under the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Energy Star Rebate Program (CNMI-EECBG-ARRA-ESRP) for the replacement of old inefficient appliances with qualified energy-efficient Energy Star products.

Rebate applications will be available to the public at the CNMI Energy Division Office located at House No. 1337, Ascencion Dr., Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 or may be downloaded from its official website at cnmienergy.com

If anyone should have any question or need additional information, please contact Vicente T. Palacios at 664-4480/81. ***(PR)***

Book sale set on Nov. 13

The CNMI Friends of the Library will be hosting a book sale on Nov. 13 at the Joeten Kiyu Library in susupe.

Hardcover books will be priced at $1 and softcovers will be priced at $.50.

For more information on the event and or to be a volunteer member of the CNMI Friends of the Library, please call Mrs. Janice Sablan at 234-5459 or Schobwuut Premier Consulting's Rose T. Ada-Hocog at 287-0818. You can also email them at janicesablan@yahoo.com or rosetada@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,
Plaintiff,

vs.

BONABE H. MARATITA and EMILIA E. MARATITA,
Defendants.

Civil Action No. 06-0554-CV

MOTION FOR ORDER OF JUDICIAL SALE OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4537(e), Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust, through its counsel Robert T. Torres, hereby moves this Court for an Order of Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property.

Respectfully submitted on this 22nd day of September, 2010

/s/ Robert T. Torres - F0197
Attorney for Plaintiff

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR AN ORDER OF SALE OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY

Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust hereby moves this court to order the judicial sale of the mortgaged property in accordance with 2 CMC § 4537(e) and the Order Granting Default Judgment, which was entered on November 19, 2007. In that Order, judgment was entered in the amount of $151,560.12, inclusive of the principal balance on the loan, prejudgment interest, and attorney's fees and costs and court costs. The Court also instructed the Defendants that they had three months from the date of the Order to satisfy the foregoing judgment in full, and that failure to do so would entitle Plaintiff to an Order of Judicial Sale of the Mortgaged Property—to wit: Lot 345 R 64, located on Rota. (See Mortgage attached to the Complaint as Exhibit B).

Plaintiff has received no payments within the three-month period since the date of entry of the Order.

An Order of Sale is proper when Defendants, after being directed to pay the principal, interest, costs and attorney's fees, fails to do so within a three-month period after the entry of the Order. Because the Defendants have not paid the judgment entered in this matter, under 2 CMC § 4537(e), Plaintiff is entitled to an Order of Judicial Sale of the Mortgaged Property.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests the Court to enter an Order of Judicial Sale as follows:

1. That the mortgaged property be sold at a public auction to satisfy the foreclosure judgment entered by the Court in its Order Granting Default Judgment, subject to the other requirements set forth herein.

2. That Plaintiff s counsel Robert T. Torres is hereby appointed, pursuant to 2 CMC §4537, with the authority to sell the mortgaged property in a public auction at a reasonable date and time to be determined by Mr. Torres, subject to the publication or announcement requirements set forth herein.

3. That the public auction shall be held at the MPLT Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which is hereby designated as the place of sale.

4. In addition to the notice requirements of 7 CMC § 4204(b), that the publication of the Notice of Sale of the mortgaged property announcing the date and time of the public auction, the location of the public auction, and other reasonable terms of the auction, shall be made in at least two local newspapers of general circulation once a week for 30 days before the date of the public auction.

5. That the public auction shall be conducted in accordance with the following terms, which shall be included in the Notice of Sale to be published:

a. The auction shall be open to the general public.

b. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

c. Rights and duties of Seller/Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer/seller shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

i) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.

ii) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

iii) To reject any and all bids.

d. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.

e. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.

f. Change of Terms. Auctioneer/Seller and Plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

g. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

6. That the Court make further instructions as deemed appropriate to assure a reasonable return from the sale of the mortgaged property pursuant to 2 CMC § 4537(e).

Respectfully submitted this 22nd day of September, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres – F0197
Attorney for Plaintiff

TINIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

US MILITARY CONTRACTING
Small Business Outreach Forum
OCTOBER 27TH, 2010 - 8:00am-4:30pm
Tinian Dynasty Hotel
Hosted by the Tinian Chamber of Commerce

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Honorable Mayor Ray Dela Cruz
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

RADM Paul J. Bushong
US Defense Representative for Micronesia

CAPT Peter S. Lynch
Commanding Officer of NAVFAC Marianas

Mr. John Jackson
Director of the Joint Guam Program Office

Mr. Richard Solander
Project Manager, Office of Economic Adjustment - Office of the Secretary of Defense

Mrs. Vera Topasna
Program Manager, US Department of Defense Procurement Center

Mr. Albert Sampson
Small Business Advisor , NAVFAC Marianas

Mr. Casey Jeszenka
Network Director, Pacific Islands Small Business Development Technical Assistance Center

Mr. Christopher Dunsmore
Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) – Pacific Guam

The Tinian Chamber of Commerce US Military Contracting Small Business Outreach Forum will be held on October 27th, 2010 and begins at 8AM (registration) 9AM(first speaker) and ends at 4:30PM the same day. Participants can therefore attend the meeting during the day on Tinian and be able to return back to Guam or Saipan the same day if necessary. Registration is $25 with no lunch or $45 with lunch. All funds collected go to the Tinian Chamber of Commerce in order to cover expenses of hosting the event. To register, please visit **www.TinianChamber.com**

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION

Early Voting & Polling Place Designation Announcement

This is to inform all CNMI Voters that pursuant to Public Law 17-11, the 2010 General Election Early Voting period for the 1st Senatorial District of Rota, the 2nd Senatorial District of Tinian and the 3rd Senatorial District of Saipan will commence on Friday, October 22nd, 2010 and end on Monday, November 1st, 2010. The polling places for all 3 senatorial districts will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 4:00 p.m. each day, inclusive of weekends. The polling places for the Early Voting period are as follows:

1st Senatorial District – Rota	Rota DPS, Songsong Village
2nd Senatorial District – Tinian	Tinian DPS, San Jose Tinian
3rd Senatorial District – Saipan	Commonwealth Election Commission (CEC) Office, Susupe

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 6105 (c), the CEC hereby announces the designated polling places for the upcoming November 2nd, 2010 General Election. The polling places for the general election will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. on the same day. The polling places are as follows:

Election District	Polling Place
Precinct 1A (San Antonio Area)	Hopwood Junior High School (Football field entrance)
Precinct 1B (San Vicente/Dandan Area)	Dandan Elementary School (Dandan baseball/softball field entrance)
Precinct 1C (Koblerville Area)	Koblerville Youth Center (Adjacent DPS Substation)
Precinct 2 (Chalan Kanoa/Susupe Area)	Joeten/Kiyu Public Library
Precinct 3A (Oleai/Chalan Laulau Area)	Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium
Precinct 3B (Garapan Area)	Garapan Elementary School Cafeteria (North entrance)
Precinct 4A (Tanapag Area)	Tanapag Elementary Cafeteria
Precinct 4B (San Roque Area)	San Roque Elementary School
Precinct 4C(Capitol Hill Area)	Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building
Precinct 4D (Northern Islands)	Northern Islands
Precinct 5 (Kagman Area)	Kagman Community Center
Precinct 6 (Tinian)	Tinian Elementary School Cafeterial
Precinct 7 (Rota)	NMC Campus-Rota

As mandated by Public Law 17-16, voters must ensure that they bring with them a pictured ID as they will be required to present it in order to be issued a ballot at the polls. For more information, please contact the Commonwealth Election Commission at 664-8683(VOTE).

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 251

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MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Nobel prize highlights China's political woes

On the surface, China presents the very picture of a rapidly modernizing nation. Its development story is the envy of much of the world.

But beneath the surface, the picture is different, and this difference was highlighted by the recent awarding of a Nobel Peace Prize to imprisoned Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo.

Some 20 years ago, Columbia professor Andrew Nathan published a collection of pieces under the title, "China's Crisis." The crisis still exists today: It is the country's failure to evolve a system of government appropriate to the modern world. China remains what it was on the eve of the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989—a one-party authoritarian state.

Liu's arrest for his leadership in the Charter 08 movement—formed to promote a human-rights manifesto—is somber testimony to China's failure to make progress politically. What's more, last week brought word that his wife, Liu Xia, is now under house arrest.

Nathan suggested that a kind of template for China's political future exists offshore, on Taiwan. This is a notion that's no doubt infuriating to Chinese nationalists, who see Taiwan not as a model, but a breakaway province.

While the regime on Taiwan also had authoritarian roots, effective political opposition was allowed to develop—at first informally, then formally, along with a free press. Taiwan represents the first development of real democracy in a region of Chinese culture.

Sadly, that kind of scenario for China seems less likely today. In recent years, Beijing has instead promoted a belligerent brand of nationalism, a shift that has alarmed many of China's neighbors. What the Chinese leadership fails to appreciate is that democracy is a path not only to greater prosperity, as on Taiwan, but to resolution of long-festering tensions in the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan would be far more likely to agree to peaceful unification with a democratic China, than with the bullying China of today.

Unfortunately, for suggesting that China could more fully develop its potential by allowing more freedom, Liu Xiaobo was put behind bars for 11 years. His Nobel Prize is a reminder to the world that to appreciate the real nature of China, one must look beneath the shiny facades of its prosperous coastal provinces.

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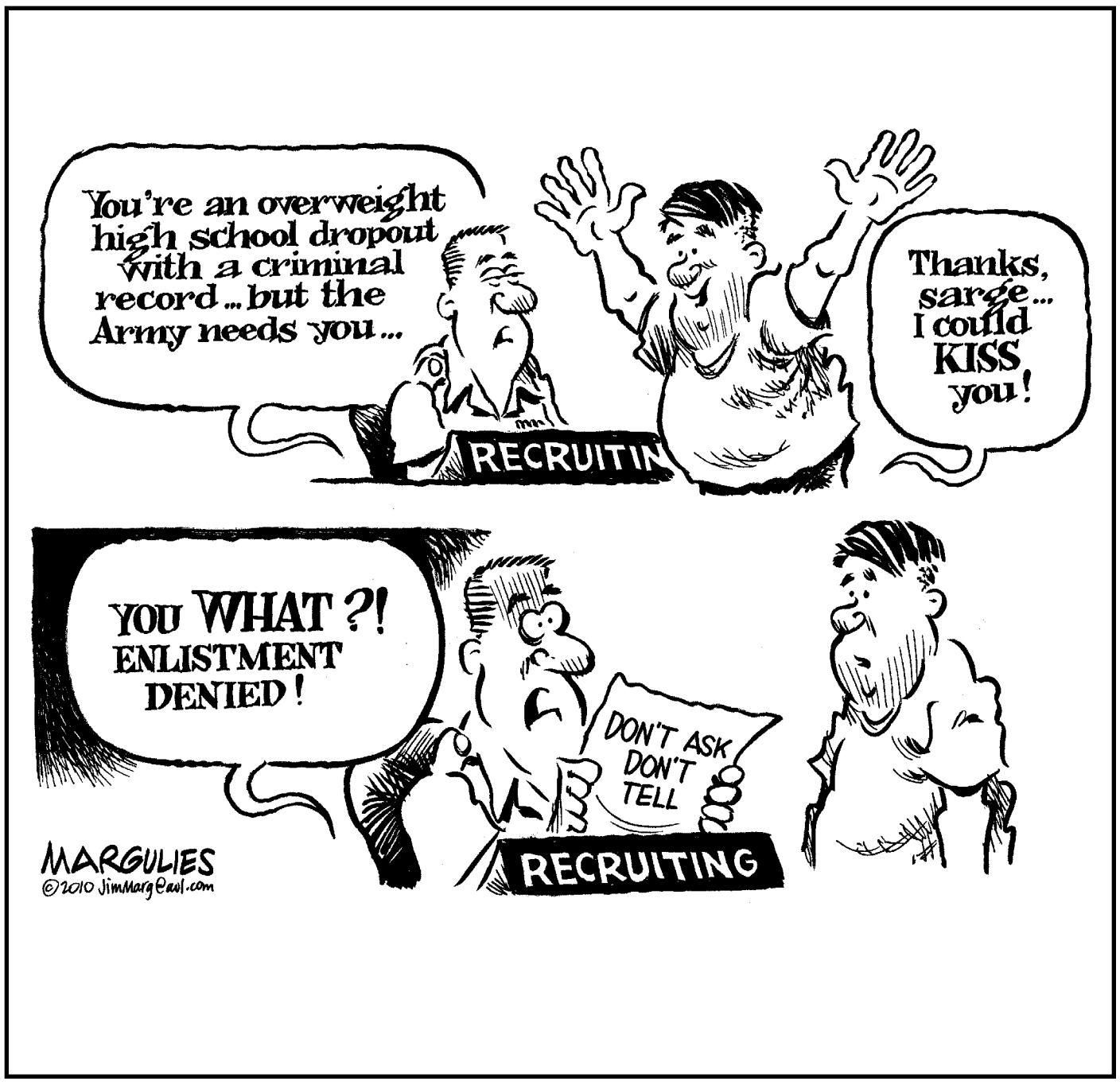
You're an overweight high school dropout with a criminal record... but the Army needs you...
RECRUITIN
Thanks, sarge... I could KISS you!
YOU WHAT ?! ENLISTMENT DENIED !
DON'T ASK DON'T TELL 2002
RECRUITING
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Turnaround

By RIK VILLEGAS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik is a writer, marketing consultant and business instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at http://rikv.blogspot.com.

On our first day on Saipan over 13 years ago, we took our young family on a trip and started driving around without a map or any direction. Our journey took us on a lot of roads and we knew if we got lost we would only need to turn around and travel until we found a familiar landmark. Many organizations are traveling on an economic path that is bumpy at best, and washed out at worst. The current situation requires many businesses and also non-profit and government organizations to stop and do a turnaround.

There are obvious steps that should be taken, such as take control of your expenses, cut unnecessary costs, renegotiate financing and vendor terms, and generate more sales. I'd like to share 10 ideas that practically any organization can use to help get their organization unstuck and moving in the right direction.

1. Stop and assess your present situation. The first step is to gather objective data you can review to determine what got you into your current situation. You should assess the internal and external factors impacting your organization and their immediate and long-term effects. Did your competition implement a marketing campaign? Have socio-cultural factors changed buying habits? How have political, economic, or technological changes impacted your organization?

2. Examine your business model. Your business model has three elements: your customers, the goods and services they buy, and how you operate your business to serve your customers. This can be broken down into the who, what, and how of your business, and changing any of these three areas will change your business model and the results you're getting.

3. Focus on your customers. The most successful organizations focus on their customers and don't take them for granted. Your customers will ultimately determine your success, and better serving their needs will encourage them to buy more, return, and tell others about your business. Even government and non-profit organizations rely on "customers" to justify their existence. What can you do to better serve them?

4. Meet with key leaders, your board of directors or advisors. Before you implement a turnaround program, you need to meet with your key leaders, directors or advisors to gain their approval and support. Share your findings and get their input and support.

5. Involve your key employees in the turnaround process. Now that you have approval from your key leaders, it's time to meet with your managers and key employees to explain the current situation and the consequences if no action is taken. Share an outline of the proposed actions and listen for comments. Support from this group is critical because they will be charged with implementing a plan and delivering results.

6. Create a shared vision and core values. Often, vulnerable organizations go through a period when they lose sight of their vision and values. Without a commonly understood vision or values, an organization tends to make arbitrary decisions that go unchallenged. A credible, attractive future should be founded on the organization's core values, and used to unify everyone's efforts to achieve organizational goals.

7. Develop or update a strategic plan. Plans chronicle both the good and poor performance of the past, and they document the vision for the future. Your plan should identify your highest priorities and the steps needed to achieve your goals. Organizations that write and implement plans on an annual basis rarely get into trouble.

8. Implement new or updated systems and procedures. Continuing your old practices will lead to similar results you realized in the past. In order to meet the goals of the strategic turnaround plan, new or updated systems and procedures should be implemented. Develop checklists, rules, policies, and procedures to improve your operations and ensure consistent results.

9. Develop a strong organizational communication system.

See TURNAROUND on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Of purpose and pain, and of butterflies, too

THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT *Creating economic success for the CNMI*

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com. Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 16 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here on Saipan. To learn more, visit www.passionprofit.com and follow Walt on Twitter (waltonsaipan)

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

Consider for a moment what life would be like if you believed that your presence here on the earth was not random, but by choice. Just suppose that the fact that you exist here, now, at this place and at this time in the evolution of the planet was by deliberate choice. In other words, that (1) either you were chosen and sent by someone or some thing, or (2) you yourself chose to come and manifest here. Interesting concept to ponder, don't you think?

We won't get into deciding which, if either, is true, nor debate pre-destiny, fate or free will, nor explore the deeper metaphysical and spiritual ramifications of it all right now. Just ponder and accept the concept for the purpose of this discussion.

So, the next logical set of questions you might ask is: If I was chosen, or if I chose to be here, then why? Why and for what was I chosen and sent? Or, why and for what purpose did I choose to come here? Did I chose to be here so I could be a worker bee for the sole purpose of making someone else wealthy in this life? Was I chosen to live out my life as an employee, enjoy life only on weekends, retire with an inadequate pension, and return from whence I came?

Or, did I come here for something greater? Is there some grander purpose that I should be seeking and to which I should be devoting my life? Am I here to do great things?

In other words—and this is the key question which I suggest be used to begin all inquiry into pursuing a passion-centered lifestyle —Why am I here on the planet?"

Case in point

I had dinner recently with a young lady who is an ethical vegan. In other words, she decided to adopt a vegan lifestyle (no animal-based food or clothing) because she was moved to change her lifestyle once she became truly aware of the suffering of animals that is a part of our meat-centered, dairy-deluded, drug-experimenting, cosmetic-testing society.

During the course of our discussion, she was moved to tears while thinking about the untold suffering that happens every day in every part of the planet, and that goes unnoticed by most who are unaware, ignored by most who do know, and accepted as normal by most everyone else.

I, too, was moved by the depth of emotion she had around this issue. It struck me that she might be an "empath," able to experience the pain of other sentient beings. It also inspired me to suggest that there was something about the pain that she, herself, might be overlooking.

To discover what that might be, let's go back to our opening question and ask of this empathic vegan: Why is she here? Why was she chosen? Why did she choose? Why is she now "burdened" with the ability to so intimately empathize with the suffering of others?

"There's a purpose to your pain, my dear."

In the pursuit of one's purpose on the planet, one place to look for that purpose is within the things and issues that one is emotional about. What are the things that you would heal or fix about the world and its inhabitants if you had the power?

The emotion you feel about life's unfairness—the sense of despair that no one is doing anything about—these are not simply random emotions that some feel, while others do not. They are more than just your personality. They are your gift. The unique and profound depth of emotion you feel about making the world a just and compassionate place is what makes you uniquely qualified to do something about it, and what will make you more effective at doing so.

Think about it. If there is a grand design, a purpose to your presence, then wouldn't there also be some significance to the things that attract your attention? Wouldn't there also be some purpose for your personality? Some point to your preferences? It would make sense, wouldn't it? That if there is purpose to one, there is purpose to all? Consider.

"Not only that, but…"

As quiet as it is being kept, the world is evolving towards a higher state of vibration—a higher state of consciousness and spiritual awareness. Those who control the news, and who feed off the energy of negative, lower-level emotions won't report it, but all around the planet, people are awakening to new ways of thought and new ways of being. The youth are awakening to the flaws of their parents' generation. Societies are rejecting a misdirected capitalist imperative that sacrifices the beauty, and sustainability of the planet. Communities are rejecting multi-national corporations' control of the seeds they need for growing their own crops. Villages are protesting government and corporate control of access to clean water. Individuals are asking different questions of themselves in the quest for meaning and survival. Protests and demonstrations against the old world order abound. The veil is being lifted. Again, you can't find the evidence of this in mainstream media, but it is happening.

To assist in this global awakening and transformation, there are those who are choosing and/or are being sent to different places for the purpose of raising the vibrational energy across the planet.

Think about it like this. Say you had a pot of cold water on a stove, and you added to it a single drop of hot water. There would be a small, barely measurable, but definite increase in the temperature of that pot of cold water. Eventually, if you kept adding more and more drops of hot water, the overall temperature of the pot would increase. The energy of that single drop of hot water, and then each successive drop of hot water affects the overall energy and vibrational energy of the water in the pot. And so it is with YOUR presence in any community in which you reside. You may not be able to measure it at first, but your very presence in a relationship, in a family, in a group, in a community, in a village, in a city, in a country, and on the planet, affects the energy level of the whole. You are making a difference whether you realize it or not. There is a "butterfly effect*" that your thoughts and your actions have on the rest of the planet.

[And, to make that point specifically to my fellow vegan friend:] Even on a practical level, although your family members are still eating meat, when your mother goes to the market to shop for the family meal, there'll be at the very least, one less piece of meat she buys for your place at the table; one less contribution to the overall suffering. Small, to be sure, but not insignificant. However, on a another level, the effect of your thoughts is immeasurable. Consider how they have inspired me to write about this topic to reach many more people than were actually seated with us at our dinner a few days ago.

And butterflies, too

*butterfly effect: the idea, used in chaos theory, that a very small difference in the initial state of a physical system can make a significant difference to the state of that system at some later time [from the theory that a butterfly flapping its wings in one part of the world might create tiny changes in the atmosphere that ultimately alter the course of, prevent or cause a hurricane in another part of the world](sort of like a domino effect)

And so, the point is clear, my friend. Those who believe there must be more to our lives and our presence here, will forever be asking different types of questions of themselves and those around them. And those who act upon and live their lives based on the answers they find, will forever be inspiring the rest of us, just as the butterflies do. There is purpose in your pain.

Inspired by N.S.

Note: Walt's fans and followers may check out his new adventures on jamaicaninchina.com.

Note: Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that revealed the best things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!—Walt

Letter to the Editor

The saga of CUC water meters

If you are a CUC water customer you are being over charged. I will use my own case as an example. I am now on my third smart meter. They changed it again a little over two months ago. Since they changed the meter I have been billed for 16,000 gallons and then again for 26,000 gallons of water. There is no way that I am using that much water. We have gone to CUC several times and complained about the excessive charges. We got no satisfaction from them. Well, I finally said, "Enough is enough." So I figured out a way to read the meter myself. To my surprise the meter reading was only 12,750 gallon. Which should be just about right for the time that the meter has been in use. So where is CUC coming up with the figures that they are charging me for, I wish I knew, There is one thing for sure I am not alone. Every time I go to customer service the place is full of people with water complaints. This has been going on for over two years. You think that by now someone in the CUC administration would have figured out that they have major problem. The water division has wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars changing meters based on the meter readers' claim that the meters are defective. Well based on my experience I do not think that the meters are the problem. It seems to me that the problem is in the reading devices or the meter readers are not doing their job. It should not be that hard to figure out which is which.

But in the meantime, I suggest that well go to CUC and demand that they unlock the meters so that we can all read our own meters and see how our readings compare with the reading that CUC is coming up with. Why is it that we can read our power meters, but cannot read our water meters? What are they trying to hide from us?

Once again, I have to say that it is time to stand up for your rights. You either stand up for what is right or you lose the right to stand up at all.

Frederick Prosser
As Matuis

TURNAROUND

From Page 10

It's critical to communicate the plan, vision and values to ensure everyone is on-board. Strategic execution will succeed or fail on the quality of your communication system because if your plan is not on top of the mind of key people, it will most likely collect dust on your shelves.

10. Monitor, measure and take corrective action. If you implement all of the things I've suggested so far, but neglect to monitor and measure your progress, your organization will eventually go off-track and get lost again. It takes constant vigilance and corrective action to ensure that your plan is being implemented.

Don't lose hope for your organization during these difficult times.The community and employees need your products and services for a better way of living. Implement some or all of these ideas to survive the rough ride that everyone is facing in the CNMI. Difficult times can often be "Storms of Perfection" to create a better organization and provide a greater quality of life for everyone involved. If you do not like the direction your organization is headed, use these 10 ideas to turn around and take a different course for a brighter future.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds around 10 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

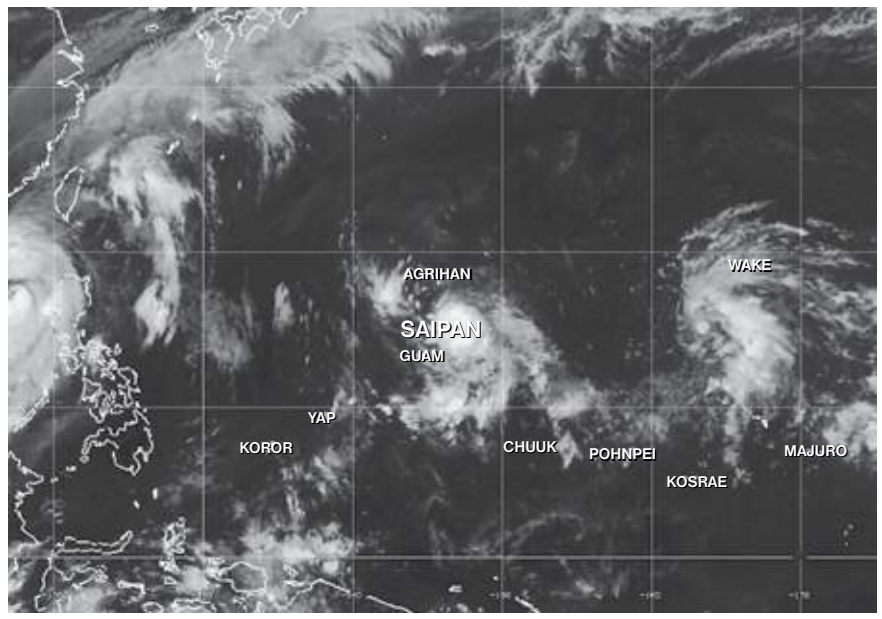
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼78
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲83	▼77
Pohnpei	Partly Sunny	▲89	▼73
Kosrae	Showers	▲91	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼55
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲67	▼51
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲80	▼66
Honolulu	Sunny	▲86	▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲53	▼36
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲84	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼53
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼70
New York	Showers	▲60	▼42
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼61
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲51	▼33
Pusan	Windy	▲70	▼61
Rome	Sunny	▲72	▼50
Salem	Sunny	▲69	▼48
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲62	▼57
Seoul	Sunny	▲67	▼52
Tokyo	Showers	▲67	▼60
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼46

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough stretches northward from 1N137E through a weak circulation southeast of Yap near 9N139E continuing northeastward across the CNMI through another circulation near 16N148E and then southeastward ending near 13N154E. Scattered showers are found southeast of Yap and Koror within 90 miles of a line extending from 4N136E to 10N140E. Showers and thunderstorms are found across the Marianas between 9N and 17N from 144E to 151E. Another surface circulation is located southwest of Wake Island at 14N164E. Showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between 10N and 20N from 162E to 168E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers east of Majuro within 120 miles of a line extending from 8N172E to 7N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:34 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
6:39 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
12:37 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
6:18 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Saturday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Monday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:31 PM	4:23 AM
Friday	5:08 PM	5:11 AM
Saturday	5:48 PM	6:00 AM
Sunday	6:32 PM	6:52 AM
Monday	7:20 PM	7:46 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
C09316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Letters to the Editor

Rebuttal

First, I do want to thank Delegate Kilili for inviting Dr. Carl E. Harris to the CNMI. I have no problem with our delegate supporting and promoting education. But when he uses his position to kill vital education projects and injects politics for the purpose of destroying any chance of the project seeing the light of day—he is wrong. Telling Dr. Harris that I was for a candidate who was against President Obama was a personal attack, unprofessional and a deliberate attempt to kill the Insular America Project before Dr. Harris could even read it for consideration. Dr. Harris was appointed by Obama which is why Kilili made that adverse statement and one can only imagine what Kilili said to him to adversely affect the success of the project after I left.

The Insular America project is a supplemental resource for U.S. History and Government. The resource includes all 11 island groups that make up Insular America so students and teachers on the mainland will have a resource on Insular America. The publishing companies have not included the Insular Areas in the textbooks which is why we are virtually unknown to the average American student, teacher and citizen. The project was designed to fill this void of academic knowledge about these island groups and I was asking Dr. Harris and the Department of Education to purchase the resource and "freely give it to all the school districts on the mainland"—I was not trying to force any schools to use my resources.

Every local person that has gone to mainland is very aware that students, teachers, citizens, and even people in Congress need to be educated about the Insular Areas but Kilili has openly rejected this project. The $400,000 that Kilili gave back to Congress would have been more than enough to give every state board of education a copy of the resources which they could freely copy and distribute to their the schools they designated exactly like the "We the People" program which gives PSS and all schools free resources on American History & Government. It is obvious Delegate Kilili did not look at the details in the project when I gave it to him because he has misrepresented the intent of the project in his rejection of the project. It is also disappointing to learn in the news from our delegate that he is against the project. I thought Kilili was supposed to be working for me and all CNMI citizens but he is obviously putting his personal politics first before helping citizens.

At the very least I think Kilili owes Dr. Harris, PSS, and myself an apology for injecting politics at a PSS function to hinder educational reform and for being ignorant about the Insular America Project. I was trying to get the Dept. of Ed. to give the project to school districts on the mainland and let them decide how, when, where and if they would use them. I'm sure teachers on the mainland will want and use the Insular America Project if given the opportunity because it was 16 of America's top Fulbright-Hays Scholars from 16 different states who came up with the idea for the Insular America project because there were no resources and nothing was being taught about the Insular Areas in their school districts.

As for Kilili's comments to not take me seriously—I would strongly readers to consider all the predictions I have made which have come true starting with my warnings about the garment industry leaving almost five years in advance and my predictions about the present decline in ou r economy before they take Kilili seriously.

As for the job he didn't give me, it was Kilili who admitted he should have given me a job in front of other GOP officials at the Retirement debate. The only problem is he didn't want me for my abilities but to keep me from writing or doing anything that could hurt his re- election bid. I didn't need the job in his office but I wanted the job because it was an opportunity for me to do more for the CNMI beyond the classroom and the Insular America Project is proof that I could have helped his office, especially when he couldn't find a way to use the 400,000 he gave back to Congress in this last session. He could have educated all students on the mainland about the CNMI and all the Insular Areas—duh!

The Insular America project can do a great deal to educate students and teachers about the Insular Areas which can only help all the Insular Areas socially as being more inclusive in the American Family, economically from American tourists that have learned about the Insular Areas and politically from the exposure that will surly make Congress take note and give more credibility to the representatives from the Insular Areas. I was simply trying to do some good for education and the Insular Areas but I was met with political opposition from our own delegate. One people one direction for education on the mainland about the Insular Areas of America—"if we (Insular America) don't toot our own horn, no one will do it for us"

Ambrose Bennett
Kagman

The best choice

The U.S. delegate forum was actually not a debate but a presentation of issues. If you have seen it, then it gives you the opportunity to make judgment as to which delegate presented the best performance and had given the best overall issues on economy, education, energy, and federal funding, etc. I personally respect the opinion of others, but Babauta in my own analysis has the edge over the other candidates. He is will verse in almost all the questions especially the long ones and responded to all that was given. All the experience that he has obtained in his political career came to a good use during the forum. One strong point that he made was that he can lobby in Washington and bring back more federal funding for the CNMI. Mr. Babauta has proven it since he had served the Marianas for 12 years as your Washington Representative. Imagine what he can do more as your next U.S. Delegate. I commended him for his perseverance and hard work that he has given the people he truly serve. His versatility can make things happen especially during this economic crisis that we endure.

Later but not least, Mr. Juan Nekai Babauta's political career speaks for itself. He has proven it; he delivered it and its time that we the people will return back this simple favor to him so that he will continue to deliver more and better services through our people, our government, and to our land. Babauta is your best choice to be the next Washington delegate.

Lann Billy
Chinatown

LOCAL

DPH to create no smoking signs, reminder cards for businesses

MONETH G. DEPOSA

CNMI Tobacco Prevention and Control Program coordinator Becky Robles addresses the Rotarians during its regular membership meeting at Giovanni's Tuesday. Looking on are Rotary president Glen Perez and Atty. Gil Birnbrich.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health plans to develop signs and reminder cards for various business establishments on the island to help them implement Public Law 16-46 or the Smoke-Free Air Act of 2008.

CNMI Tobacco Prevention and Control program coordinator Becky Robles acknowledged the burden on business owners and non-smokers in approaching those who smoke in public places during Tuesday's Saipan Rotary Club regular membership meeting.

Robles said the signs and reminder cards would be 'more discreet' than coming up to someone in violation of PL16-46.

"It gets the pressure off of the business owner or a non-smoking customer," she said.

The proposed rules and regulations are intended to implement the provisions of the Smoke-Free Air Act of 2008 beginning Dec. 1.

The regulation states that smoking is prohibited in government facilities. It bans smoking in all enclosed areas and outdoor areas with 25 feet of any doorway entrance or exit to a government facility.

The smoking prohibition is also extended to all enclosed areas of public places including but not limited to areas available to and customarily used by the general public and other common-use areas.

Among these common areas are sports arenas and lobbies of hotels and motels except in designated smoking spaces in an outdoor area 25 feet or farther from entrances and exits.

Smoking is prohibited in enclosed places of employment, or within the 25 feet of any person who is not smoking if the place or site of work is an outdoor area.

It is also prohibited in any property of the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College and thus requires the 25 feet distance from the school grounds.

Places and locations where smoking is not regulated include open-air bars, private residences or homes, private apartments and condominiums, enclosed gaming areas of a casino establishment, and fully enclosed and well-ventilated smoking areas at the departure terminal of the Commonwealth airports.

The regulation states that owners of places and locations not regulated by the anti-smoking law can take more stringent measures to protect individuals from second-hand smoke.

"Our goal is to create a healthy environment and a smoke-free atmosphere for the majority of people who do not smoke," said Robles.

Robles added that the law will also help reduce the risk of tobacco-related diseases and second-hand smoke.

According to Robles, the law was not fully implemented yet because they had to work on the rules and regulations for its provisions.

She said that it will be on "full force" by Dec. 1.

Robles noted, however, that they are not "smoking police."

"We want to work with businesses and the community in implementing the law," she added.

She encouraged everyone to contact their office at 323-6584 if they have questions on how to comply with the law.

15 Guam *man'amko* to visit Aging Center

About 15 *man'amko* from the Mangilao Senior Center in Guam are expected to visit the island's Aging Center next month.

Program coordinator Walter Manglona said they are working closely with Mangilao Senior Center manager Carmen Aguon and Senior Council president Ann Benavente to prepare for this event.

Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* that the visit, which is part of the Mangilao Senior Center's program, is slated for Nov. 12.

During the visit, Manglona said the Guam *man'amko* will perform a presentation for their Saipan counterparts.

Meanwhile, the Saipan *man'amko* will showcase the different programs they have at the Aging Center.

The program coordinator said that the Aging Center on island serves congregates that were previously from Guam that tell them about the distinctions between the two centers.

"These clients are surprised on how much more programs we have here on Saipan compared to Guam," he said.

The Aging Center offers the island's elderly recreational programs such as music classes, bingo, computer classes, and karaoke.

According to Manglona, the Aging Center on Saipan provides more programs for the elderly although they do not receive as much funding as the Mangilao Senior Center. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

Tropical disturbance to pass north of Saipan today

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is advising the public and motorists to take precautionary measures while driving as a tropical disturbance will be passing Saipan bringing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms this morning.

Based on the information received from National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam and compiled at CNMI Emergency Management Office, moderate to fresh southwest winds are expected across the Marianas waters.

This weather disturbance will be passing north of Saipan with forecast wind of 10 to 15 mph with gusts to 25 mph. Saipan and Tinian residents will be expecting mostly scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.

The rest of the week should also see moderate south winds and isolated thunderstorms. Combined seas of five to six feet will persist through today then diminish to four to five feet on Friday. ***(EMO)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Belated birthday greetings go out to Ms. Lorraine Catienza, who celebrated her birthday yesterday, Oct. 20. May you have a blessed and wonderful day! Much love coming from your Honey, children, family, friends, and your entire MHS Dolphin Family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated birthday greetings go out to Edu Mari Sasis Banaag who celebrated his birthday yesterday, Oct. 20. Hope you had a fabulous day. Coming out from all your family and friends—MHS 2K12.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

BoH donates $25K to Karidat

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In keeping with its commitment to provide contributions to nonprofit organizations, Bank of Hawaii has made a donation to the Karidat Social Services through the bank's Charitable Foundation.

Bank of Hawaii and its Charitable Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations involved in improving the quality of life, health and well-being of individuals and communities, with program areas focused on education with emphasis on children and youth, health care, community development, housing, human services, and culture and the arts.

John Sheather, Bank of Hawaii's senior vice president and deputy division manager for the Pacific Islands Division, presented a check worth $25,000 to Karidat officials Tuesday at the bank's Garapan branch.

Sheather said the foundation is pleased to have chosen Karidat as its beneficiary because of the kind of work the organization does for the community.

He said that just like Karidat, Bank of Hawaii believes in the importance of youth and youth development in the community.

"We've made a number of donations to [Karidat]. We hope that we continue to help them in what they do," Sheather told *Saipan Tribune.*

Karidat youth development coordinator Calvani Deleon Guerrero said this is the first grant application he wrote for the House of Manhoben youth center since he was hired in June.

"We want to thank Bank of Hawaii for giving us this opportunity. We're so fortunate to have $25,00 for our youth," he said, adding that he had the Manhoben youth in mind when he wrote the grant.

Guerrero said the $25,000 will go a long way for the children at the youth center as it will be used to update their books and buy supplies and materials including computers to be used at the youth center.

Guerrero said the four computers at the center are currently not operational.

He said the money will also help them in developing new programs for the youth center, including the Junior Leadership Corps as well as partnerships with other offices such as the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and the Aging Center.

According to Guerrero, the number of youth they serve at the center varies daily, ranging from seven to 20 children per day.

He said the center, which closed in 2009, has made a lot of progress since it reopened for they have generated more funds and created more programs for the youth.

Guerrero said the Manhoben is very important for the CNMI youth because it takes the children off the streets 'where a lot of bad stuff happens.'

The center provides these children a billiards table, table tennis, basketball court, tutoring center, and educational materials.

"The goal is to take them away from the streets and bring them here as much as possible," said Guerrero.

Guerrero said they also applied for two other grants which they hope will be approved just like the one for Bank of Hawaii.

He also thanked Karidat executive director Angie Guerrero for her confidence in him in writing the grant applications.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senior vice president and deputy division manager for Bank of Hawaii Pacific Islands Division John Sheather, center, presents the $25,000 check to Karidat officials Tuesday.

Say goodbye to traditional free checking

NEW YORK (AP)—Free checking as we know it is ending.

The days when you could walk into a bank branch and open an account with no charges and no strings attached appear to be over. Now you have to jump through some hoops—keep a high balance, use direct deposit or swipe your debit card several times a month.

One new account at Bank of America charges $8.95 per month if you want to bank with a teller or get a paper statement.

Almost all of the largest U.S. banks are either already making free checking much more difficult to get or expected to do so soon, with fees on even basic banking services.

It's happening because a raft of new laws enacted in the past year, including the financial overhaul package, have led to an acute shrinking of revenue for the banks. So they are scraping together money however they can.

Bank of America, which does business with half the households in America, announced a dramatic shift Tuesday in how it does business with customers. One key change: Free checking, a mainstay of American banking in recent years, will be nearly unheard of.

"I've seen more regulation in last 30 months than in last 30 years," said Robert Hammer, CEO of RK Hammer, a bank advisory firm. "The bottom line for banks is shifting enormously, swiftly and deeply, and they're not going to sit by twiddling their thumbs. They're going to change."

In the last year, lawmakers in Washington have passed a range of new laws aimed at protecting bank customers from harsh fees, like the $35 charged to some Bank of America customers who overdrafted their account by buying something small like a Starbucks latte.

These and other fees were extremely lucrative. According to financial services firm Sandler O'Neill, they made up 12 percent of Bank of America's revenue. On Tuesday, the bank took a $10.4 billion charge to its third-quarter earnings because the new regulations limit fees the bank can collect when retailers accept debit cards.

Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan acknowledged in a conference call that overdraft fees were generating a lot of income. But the bank was also losing customers who were often taken aback by the high hidden fees.

Checking accounts were being closed at an annual rate of 18 percent, he said, and complaints were at an all-time high.

So Moynihan ended overdraft charges on small debit card transactions. He says the rate of account closings have since dropped 27 percent.

To make up for lost fees, he also started thinking of new products.

Analysts see broad strategy by Cablevision in feud

NEW YORK (AP)—The contract dispute that has left 3 million Cablevision subscribers without Fox programming since the weekend may be just one move in a broader chess match between broadcast TV companies and subscription TV providers.

Industry experts say one reason Cablevision Systems Corp. is playing tough in negotiations is to draw action by federal regulators. Proposed rules backed by cable providers and some lawmakers could stop the broadcast companies that run Fox, NBC, ABC and CBS stations from pulling their channels during negotiations over the monthly fees a provider pays broadcasters to carry their channels on cable lineups.

A ban on pulling channels would deprive networks and local station owners of their most powerful bargaining chip in their push for higher rates.

The stakes are growing for TV viewers, who have had to put up with an escalating number of blackouts over the past few years as broadcasters look to win a bigger source of income outside of advertising.

Fox, owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp., earlier threatened to pull signals in a similar dispute with Time Warner Cable Inc., a provider with almost 13 million customers in 28 states. That dispute ended without any blackout, but fees are typically renegotiated every few years. Fox and satellite provider Dish Network Corp. face a similar showdown this month as their current fee deal expires.

Fox and Cablevision said Tuesday they had not yet reached a deal, leaving customers without the stations for a fourth day.

The dispute with Cablevision began at midnight Friday when the company's contract with Fox expired. Channels including Fox 5 and My9 in New York and Fox29 in Philadelphia have gone dark for Cablevision customers since then. Viewers had to make alternative arrangements to watch the National League playoffs, the New York Giants football game and the hit show "House."

If the dispute continues to drag on, there's even an outside possibility Cablevision subscribers could miss the World Series games that Fox will begin broadcasting later this month.

Analysts don't believe the dispute will get that far, however, in part because Cablevision already knows that it will have to eventually bow out.

That's because what News Corp. risks by pulling its signal—the advertising dollars it earns at its local stations in the New York area—is just a fraction of the media empire's $30 billion or so in annual revenue.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Source: FBI looking at foreclosure mess

WASHINGTON (AP)—A federal law enforcement official says the FBI is in the initial stages of trying to determine whether the financial industry may have broken criminal laws in the mortgage foreclosure crisis. The law enforcement official says the FBI is at the start of a lengthy sorting-out process in which agents will look into what caused the financial institutions to mishandle the flood of paperwork in the historic avalanche of foreclosures. The official says the question is whether financial institutions were acting with criminal intent or were simply overwhelmed by events in the wake of the housing market's collapse. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is just getting under way.

No mandatory cadmium limits; Shrek glasses were OK

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The 12 million "Shrek" glasses pulled by McDonald's last spring amid federal concerns about cadmium did not have unsafe levels of the toxic metal, judging by revised intake limits regulators unveiled Tuesday. Staff at the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which has been scrambling to deal with risks posed by cadmium since high levels were found in some children's jewelry, also said they won't insist on mandatory limits for an element that can damage kidneys and bones. Instead, the agency will defer to an independent, private-sector group that has been drafting voluntary limits for several months.

Bank of America posts $7.7B loss on special charge

NEW YORK (AP)—Bank of America Corp. said Tuesday it lost $7.65 billion during the third quarter due to a charge related to credit and debit card reform legislation passed over the summer. The bank also announced a change in its consumer banking strategy to focus on providing customers with incentives to do more business with the bank instead of generating revenue through penalty fees such as overdraft charges. The bank is already starting to implement some changes, and has cut overdraft fees on small amounts that customers charge to their debit cards. "Customer scores have improved, complaint volumes are down," CEO Brian Moynihan said on a conference call with analysts to discuss earnings.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
10,978.62	1,165.90	2,436.95
-165.07	0.00	0.00
-1.48%	0.00%	0.00%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.028	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7591	Philippine Peso	43.395
British Pound	0.636	Indian Rupee	44.35	Singapore Dollar	1.3091
Canadian Dollar	1.033	Indonesian Rupiah	8927.5	South Korean Won	1130.525
Chinese Yuan	6.6446	Japanese Yen	81.748	Swiss Franc	0.9737
Euro	0.7245	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1085	Taiwan Dollar	30.843
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3376	Thailand Baht	29.945

Nation

Military recruiters told to accept gay applicants

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The military is accepting openly gay recruits for the first time in the nation's history, even as it tries in the courts to slow the movement to abolish its "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

At least two service members discharged for being gay began the process to re-enlist after the Pentagon's Tuesday announcement.

A federal judge in California who overturned the 17-year policy last week rejected the government's latest effort on Tuesday to halt her order telling the military to stop enforcing the law. Before her ruling, government lawyers told Phillips they would appeal if she rejected their request.

With the recruiting announcement, the barriers built by an institution long resistant and sometimes hostile to gays had come down.

The movement to overturn the 1993 Clinton-era law gained speed when President Barack Obama campaigned on its repeal. The effort stalled in Congress this fall, and found new life last month when U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips declared it unconstitutional.

"Gay people have been fighting for equality in the military since the 1960s," said Aaron Belkin, executive director of the Palm Center, a think tank on gays and the military at the University of California Santa Barbara. "It took a lot to get to this day."

The Defense Department has said it would comply with Phillips' order and had frozen any discharge cases. Pentagon spokeswoman Cynthia Smith said recruiters had been given top-level guidance to accept applicants who say they are gay.

AP interviews found some recruiters following the order and others saying they had not heard of the announcement.

Recruiters also have been told to inform potential recruits that the moratorium on enforcement of the policy could be reversed at any time, if the ruling is appealed or the court grants a stay, she said.

AP

A soldier guards a door as Dan Choi, right, an Iraq War veteran and a West Point graduate who was discharged from the military in July because he announced publicly that he is gay, sit inside the U.S. Armed Forces Recruiting Center in Times Square filling out re-enlistment documents on Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010, in New York.

Gay rights groups were continuing to tell service members to avoid revealing that they are gay, fearing they could find themselves in trouble should the law be reinstated.

"What people aren't really getting is that the discretion and caution that gay troops are showing now is exactly the same standard of conduct that they will adhere to when the ban is lifted permanently," Belkin said. "Yes, a few will try to become celebrities."

An Air Force officer and co-founder of a gay service member support group called OutServe said financial considerations are playing a big role in gay service members staying quiet.

"The military has financially trapped us," he said, noting that he could owe the military about $200,000 if he were to be dismissed.

The officer, who asked not to be identified for fear of being discharged, said he's hearing increasingly about heterosexual service members approaching gay colleagues and telling them they can come out now.

He also said more gay service members are coming out to their peers who are friends, while keeping it secret from leadership. He said he has come out to two peers in the last few days.

An opponent of the judge's ruling said confusion that has come up is exactly what Pentagon officials feared and shows the need for her to immediately freeze her order while the government appeals.

"It's only logical that a stay should be granted to avoid the confusion that is already occurring with reports that the Pentagon is telling recruiters to begin accepting homosexual applicants," said Tony Perkins, the president of the Family Research Council, a conservative advocacy group based in Washington that supports the policy.

The uncertain status of the law has caused much confusion within an institution that has historically discriminated against gays.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police label shots at Pentagon as a 'random event'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Someone fired shots at the Pentagon early Tuesday in what security officials described as "a random event." No one was injured in the pre-dawn incident in which shots were fired into two windows at the sprawling Defense Department just across the Potomac River in suburban Virginia. Steven Calvery, director of the civilian Pentagon Force Protection Agency, told reporters that a number of his officers reported hearing five to seven shots fired at about 4:55 a.m. EDT near the south parking lot of the Pentagon. The Pentagon building and the roads leading it were briefly shut down as officers did an initial sweep of the area. An internal search of the iconic structure found fragments of two bullets still embedded in two windows—one on the third floor and one on the fourth. The bullets had shattered but did not penetrate the windows, Calvery said. The windows were part of offices that are being renovated and they were unoccupied at the time.

Family skeptical of police account of NY shooting

THORNWOOD, N.Y. (AP)—Relatives of a Pace University football player who was shot and killed by police said Tuesday they are skeptical of official accounts of the shooting and have hired a civil rights lawyer. "While we had been assured of an objective investigation, we are deeply troubled by the various and conflicting accounts," the Henry family of Easton, Mass., said in a statement. "We are simply seeking the truth about the actions of anyone who participated in the killing of our son." Danroy Henry, 20, was shot to death by officers who fired through the windshield of his Nissan Altima. The police had been called to a disturbance that spilled out of Finnegan's Grill in Thornwood, about 25 miles north of New York City and 1 1/2 miles from Pace's campus.

Conn. jury hears words of home invasion defendant

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—Lawyers for a Connecticut man trying to avoid the death penalty for a fatal home invasion cited the writings of his co-defendant who described how his "dark shadow was let loose" as he beat a doctor and the pleasure he got from terrorizing the man's wife and two daughters. Steven Hayes' attorneys on Tuesday introduced the words of Joshua Komisarjevsky, who is still awaiting trial, in an attempt to show Komisarjevsky masterminded the 2007 break-in and escalated the violence that led to the killings of Jennifer Hawke-Petit and her daughters, 17-year-old Hayley and 11-year-old Michaela, at their Cheshire home. Komisarjevsky described the bloody beating of the victims' husband and father, Dr. William Petit, saying he felt the attack let loose "my dark shadow."

State lawmakers preparing citizenship legislation

PHOENIX (AP)—The state senator in Arizona who wrote the nation's toughest law against illegal immigrants said Tuesday he's collecting support across the country from legislators to challenge automatic U.S. citizenship to the children of illegal immigrants.

Arizona state Sen. Russell Pearce's target is the 14th Amendment, but it is unclear how the state lawmaker can or will influence a federal statue.

"This is a battle of epic proportions," Pearce said Tuesday during a news conference at the Arizona Capitol. "We've allowed the hijacking of the 14th Amendment."

Pearce declined to say how the legislation will differ from similar measures that have been introduced in each two-year congressional session since 2005. None of them made it out of committee.

He and another Arizona lawmaker did argue that wording in the amendment that guarantees citizenship to people born in the U.S. who are "subject to the jurisdiction" of this country does not apply to the children of illegal immigrants because such families don't owe sole allegiance to the U.S.

The efforts by Pearce and the other lawmakers come amid calls to change the U.S. Constitution's 14th Amendment. Supporters cite costs to taxpayers for services provided to illegal immigrants and their children.

Changing the Constitution is difficult.

It requires approval by two-thirds majorities in both chambers of Congress, an impossibility now because Democrats have the majority in both houses and most oppose such a measure. Even if Republicans gain power in November and legislation is passed, an amendment would still need to be ratified by three-fourths of the states.

Paul Bender, a constitutional law professor at Arizona State University, said if the lawmakers focus their argument on the "subject to jurisdiction" wording, they won't get very far because the founders only meant it to apply to the children of foreign diplomats born in the U.S.

"If the British ambassador and his wife have a child in the U.S., that child is not a citizen because he is not subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. We cannot put him in jail, we cannot even give him a parking ticket," Bender said.

The 14th Amendment "could have easily have said you're a citizen if you owe your allegiance, but our Constitution doesn't say that," he said. "It says if you're born here, and you're not a diplomat's child, then you become a citizen, and that's the way its been for 100 years."

Carlos Galindo-Elvira, vice president of Valle del Sol, a Phoenix group that provides social services to community members and advocates for immigrants, said Pearce's interpretation of the amendment is an effort to "legitimize bullying babies."

O'Donnell questions separation of church, state

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)—Republican Christine O'Donnell challenged her Democratic rival Tuesday to show where the Constitution requires separation of church and state, drawing swift criticism from her opponent, laughter from her law school audience and a quick defense from prominent conservatives.

"Where in the Constitution is separation of church and state?" O'Donnell asked while Democrat Chris Coons, an attorney, sat a few feet away.

Coons responded that O'Donnell's question "reveals her fundamental misunderstanding of what our Constitution is. ... The First Amendment establishes a separation."

She interrupted to say, "The First Amendment does? ... So you're telling me that the separation of church and state, the phrase 'separation of church and state,' is in the First Amendment?"

O'Donnell

Her campaign issued a statement later saying O'Donnell "was not questioning the concept of separation of church and state as subsequently established by the courts. She simply made the point that the phrase appears nowhere in the Constitution."

Conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh made the same point in his radio program soon after the debate, saying, "There's nothing in the Constitution about separation of church and state."

The controversy was the latest to befall O'Donnell in a race where she trails badly in the polls against Coons.

Coons is a county executive nominated by the Democrats for the seat held for years by Vice President Joe Biden. O'Donnell, with strong tea party support, burst into the national spotlight by winning the Republican primary over a longtime GOP congressman.

The subject of religion and the law came up during their debate at Widener University Law School as O'Donnell criticized Coons for saying that teaching creationism in public school would violate the Constitution.

Coons said private and parochial schools are free to teach creationism—O'Donnell used the term "intelligent design"—but that under the "indispensable principle" of separation of church and state "religious doctrine doesn't belong in our public schools."

He said the separation of church and state was one of a number of "settled pieces of constitutional law" worked out through years of legal development including Supreme Court decisions. He said a woman's right to abortion was another.

He noted again the First Amendment's ban on establishment of religion.

"That's in the First Amendment?" she said, smiling.

Both candidates suggested that the exchange showed the other didn't understand the Constitution.

Asia

After 13 die in RP, typhoon aims at China

CAUAYAN, Philippines (AP)—A super typhoon that killed 13 people and flattened forests and crops in the northern Philippines dumped heavy rains on the capital Tuesday as it headed across the sea toward southern China.

Typhoon Megi struck the Philippines on Monday with ferocious winds of 140 miles (225 kilometers) per hour, but initial assessments showed relatively light damage and casualties, partly because the storm struck sparsely populated areas. Philippine officials also cited their massive emergency preparations days ahead of the storm.

Food vendor Nesie Callaotit, her husband and two children were hurriedly packing clothes to flee to safety when the wind yanked off half of their tin roof, exposing their house in northeastern Isabela province to pounding rain and the horrifying wind.

They held on to a wooden post for three hours, weeping and praying together, until the torrents eased.

"All of us were in tears," the 40-year-old Callaotit said. "We thought it was our last day together."

AP

Elvira Soriano cuddles her daughter Rhea as she shows what used to be her home a day after typhoon Megi destroyed her home at Delfin Albano township, Isabela province, Philippines, Tuesday Oct. 19, 2010. T

After it exited into the South China Sea on Tuesday, Megi was almost stationary packing winds of 108 mph (175 kph) but was forecast to regain strength before its expected landfall in southern China on Thursday. Chinese authorities evacuated 140,000 people from a coastal province.

Isabela province in the northeast Philippines, Megi's entry point, bore the brunt of the Typhoon Megi's destruction while more than 8,000 people rode out the typhoon in sturdy school buildings, town halls, churches and relatives' homes.

Roads in and out of the coastal province were deserted and blocked by collapsed trees, power lines and debris.

Iron-sheet roofs on many of the houses were blown away. In Tamauini town, Ariel Marzan said he escaped just minutes before his house tumbled amid winds so strong his roof was swept into a nearby rice field 30 yards (meters) away.

"I didn't expect it to be so strong," he said as he surveyed the damage and picked up the strewn pieces of his household.

Nearby coconut and banana groves were flattened.

At least 13 deaths in Cagayan, Isabela and Pangasinan provinces were blamed on the typhoon, including at least six drownings. In Pangasinan province, a mother, her daughter and son were pinned to death when a tree collapsed on their house, disaster official Eugene Cabrera said.

Even as the typhoon moved away, its massive outer bands still stretched over much of western Luzon and drenched the capital, Manila, and surrounding areas, snarling traffic and sending about 1,000 people out of their homes into temporary shelters.

President Benigno Aquino III said Tuesday that although the typhoon caused significant damage, the loss of life was minimal and "could have been much greater had we not prepared for the storm."

"The work of bringing life back to normal in the soonest possible time is already under way," he said.

Assistant Agriculture Secretary Salvador Salacup said an initial estimate of $36 million losses to rice and corn crops showed the damage was minimal. Cagayan Valley and Ilocos regions lost around 12 percent of their rice production for the season. Cagayan Valley alone accounts for 30 percent of the national rice output.

Typhoon Megi is likely to spare Vietnam, which was in early forecast paths and has been suffering severe flooding in the past week. At least 41 flood-related deaths have been reported, and 19 other people are presumed dead after a bus was swept off a road by raging currents.

Up to 31.5 inches (800 millimeters) of rain pounded areas of Vietnam in just a few days, forcing 126,000 people to flee their homes. Earlier flooding this month left more than 80 people dead or missing.

The death toll from recent flooding in Thailand rose to five on Tuesday. Downpours that started over the weekend have affected nearly 55,000 people in 17 central and northeastern provinces, according to the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department.

Indian gov't: Pakistan spies tied to Mumbai siege

NEW DELHI (AP)—An American convicted in the 2008 Mumbai attacks said Pakistan's main spy agency was deeply involved in planning that strike, monitoring the preparations and providing funding and advice to the attackers, according to an Indian government summary of his interrogation.

The report gives the strongest indication of the involvement of Pakistani authorities in the attack, which killed 166 people, paralyzed India's business capital and froze peace efforts between Pakistan and India.

Under questioning by Indian officials, David Headley painted a detailed picture of how intertwined Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency was with the Lashkar-e-Taiba group accused of carrying out the attack, according to the report.

Headley, 50, from Chicago, was born Daood Gilani to a Pakistani father and an American mother. In March, he pleaded guilty in U.S. federal court to laying the groundwork for the Mumbai attack as well as preparing for an attack in Denmark.

According to the report, Headley said the Pakistani spy agency provided individual handlers—many of them senior officers—for all the top members of Lashkar and gave them direction and money to carry out their reconnaissance of prospective targets.

The group's chief military commander, Zaki-ur-Rahman Lakhvi, was close to the director general of the spy agency, Lt. Gen. Ahmed Shuja Pasha, the report said.

"According to Headley, every big action of LeT is done in close coordination with ISI," the report said, using a common abbreviation for Lashkar-e-Taiba.

A senior intelligence official in Pakistan said the allegations in the Indian report were baseless. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media on the record.

"These are allegations we've heard before," U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner told reporters in Washington. "We believe the government of Pakistan has pledged its cooperation in bringing the perpetrators of the Mumbai attacks to justice. And we fully expect that these pledges of cooperation are going to be carried out."

"Pakistan itself has been, obviously, greatly touched by extremist violence, and it is also in an existential struggle with these groups. So we believe Pakistan understands the threat and is committed to working cooperatively," Toner said.

Rash of killings grips Pakistan's largest city

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Gunmen killed 16 people in Pakistan's largest city Tuesday, officials said, the latest victims in a surge of violence to grip Karachi and underscore the poor state of law and order in this U.S.-allied nation.

At least 48 people, including several political activists, have been killed and another 48 have been wounded since Saturday in the southern port city, according to Sharmila Farooqi, a spokeswoman for the Sindh provincial government, and police. The violence coincided with Sunday's election to replace a provincial lawmaker killed in August.

Karachi, a vast metropolis with more than 16 million residents, is prone to political, ethnic and religious strife. While officials would not name any suspects, many so-called "target killings" in Karachi have been linked to gangs allegedly controlled by two of the city's long-feuding political parties.

Because of its status as the country's main economic hub, keeping Karachi calm is of prime importance to Pakistani leaders who have already seen criminal activity soar alongside Taliban-led Islamist militant violence.

A major chunk of supplies for U.S. and NATO troops is shipped to the city before traveling overland in Pakistan and into neighboring Afghanistan.

The two parties most linked to violence in Karachi—the Muttahida Quami Movement and the Awami National Party—have their electoral bases in different ethnic groups that make up a large share of the city's population.

The MQM claims to represent the Urdu-speaking descendants of those people who came to Karachi from India soon after the birth of Pakistan in 1947. It is secular and likes to speak out against the so-called Talibanization of the city, a jab at the Awami National Party, which represents the ethnic Pashtuns from the Taliban heartland in the northwest.

Raza Haider, the member of the provincial assembly who was gunned down in August, was a senior member of the MQM.

Both parties were competing for Haider's vacant seat, but the ANP announced Saturday evening that it would boycott the election, saying the MQM would rig the vote. The MQM won the seat.

MQM lawmaker Haider Abbas Rizvi said the party had handed authorities a list of 150 alleged criminals it suspects in the attacks but that nothing had come of it. He not only blamed the ANP, but also faulted the Pakistan People's Party, which control's the provincial government.

Japan's Empress Michiko says she's slowing down

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Empress Michiko, marking her 76th birthday on Wednesday, said she is starting to feel the affects of her age—sometimes forgetting where she puts things - but she hopes to keep up her official duties as long as she can.

Michiko, the wife of Emperor Akihito, said in a pre-birthday statement that she is well taken care of by her palace doctors and, when necessary, outside specialists.

She has in the past suffered from ailments believed to be related to stress, and has recently shown signs of a form of asthma.

"I myself have been blessed with relatively good health, but in the last few years I feel I have become a lot slower at doing things," she said. "I also often experience symptoms that seem to be caused by aging, such as not being able to find what I am looking for. I find these incidents amusing at times, but I also feel a bit helpless."

The royal couple assumed the Chrysanthemum Throne 21 years ago, after the death of Akihito's father, the late Emperor Hirohito.

AP

In this photo taken on Oct. 1, 2010 and released by Japan's Imperial Household Agency on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2010, Japanese Emperor Akihito, left, and Empress Michiko smile while posing at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo.

In their official role as symbolic figureheads, they carry out a wide range of duties, from welcoming foreign dignitaries to bestowing awards and observing palace rituals and ceremonies. They have, however, recently kept a somewhat lower public profile than in past years.

In modern Japan, monarchs generally do not abdicate the throne. After their coronation, they reign for the rest of their life.

World

Mexico's largest pot bust likely hit Sinaloa gang

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico's largest-ever seizure of marijuana packaged for sale is even bigger than the original estimate of 105 tons and probably belonged to the country's most powerful drug-trafficking cartel, authorities said Tuesday.

The Sinaloa cartel run by Mexico's most wanted fugitive, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, now is moving drugs through the Tijuana corridor "unimpeded," said a U.S. law enforcement official in Mexico, a possible reason why violence has dropped in the city across the border from San Diego, California, since a bloody peak in 2008.

President Felipe Calderon recently praised the city's new calm as a success story in Mexico's drug war.

Many have speculated the drop in violence just means the Sinaloa cartel has cut a deal with remnants of the Arrellano Felix gang, which became one of the country's dominant cartels in the 1990s through control of Tijuana's lucrative land and sea routes leading into California, but has suffered from the arrests and deaths of its top leaders since 2002.

Calderon dismissed the idea of an arrangement in a recent interview with The Associated Press, saying the new calm came in part from government cooperation and the arrests of key cartel leaders.

"The truth is that in the last two years, the government has made important hits on the criminal structures," he told the AP.

But the U.S. official said it was a possibility.

"There could be a pact. We don't know for certain if there is one, what that pact would be. But Sinaloa has been able to operate there unimpeded by other cartels," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity for security reasons.

Mexican soldiers and police grabbed the U.S.-bound marijuana in pre-dawn raids Monday in three neighborhoods when 11 people arrested after a shootout led authorities to the drugs.

Army officials first said the drugs weighed 105 tons and had an estimated street value of 4.2 billion pesos, about $340 million. But authorities said the haul was even bigger Tuesday, counting 15,300 packages—5,000 more than first announced. It weighed 134.2 tons, said Ramon Gomez, a spokesman for the federal Attorney General's office.

By comparison, U.S. authorities seized a total of 123 tons of marijuana during 2009 at all San Diego-area border crossings.

Calderon's security spokesman, Alejandro Poire, agreed the drugs likely belonged to Sinaloa and called it a historic seizure.

French retirement protests take violent turn

PARIS (AP)—Masked youths clad in black torched cars, smashed storefronts and threw up roadblocks Tuesday, clashing with riot police across France as protests over raising the retirement age to 62 took a radical turn.

Hundreds of flights were canceled and desperate drivers searched for gas as oil refinery strikes and blockages emptied the pumps at nearly a third of the nation's gas stations.

A series of nationwide protests against the bill since early September have been largely peaceful. But Tuesday's clashes, notably just outside Paris and in the southeastern city of Lyon, revived memories of student unrest in 2006 that forced the government to abandon another highly unpopular labor bill.

Still, President Nicolas Sarkozy was unbending Tuesday, vowing to guarantee public order in the face of "troublemakers." The government announced a plan to pool gasoline stocks so that dry stations can be filled.

"There are people who want to work, the immense majority, and they cannot be deprived of gasoline," Sarkozy said.

A new test could come as early as Thursday, when students plan a day of mobilization with a demonstration in Paris hours before the Senate is to vote on the retirement measure.

AP

Demonstrators hold trade union banners during a workers demonstration in Bordeaux, southwestern France, Tuesday, Oct.19, 2010.

"The government will continue to dislodge protesters blocking the fuel depots. ... No one has the right to take hostage an entire country, its economy and its jobs," Prime Minister Francois Fillon said after meeting with oil industry executives.

Some 4,000 gas stations—out of 12,700 nationwide—were empty of gas Tuesday afternoon, the Environment Ministry said.

French unions have a long tradition of street protests, but the current strife is particularly worrisome because it has touched the vital energy sector and is drawing often volatile youth into the mix.

Troublemakers tagged onto the coattails of student demonstrators in 2006 when the government was forced to abandon a law making it easier for employers to hire and fire young people. The specter of 2005 riots that spread through poor housing projects nationwide with large disenfranchised immigrant populations is never far away.

Today's protesters are trying to stop lawmakers from approving a bill that would raise the retirement age from 60 to 62 to prevent the pension system from going bankrupt as citizens live longer and a diminishing pool of young workers pay into the system.

Unions claim the move would erode France's near-sacred tradition of generous social benefits—including long vacations, contracts that make it hard for employers to lay off workers and a state-subsidized health care system—in favor of "American-style capitalism."

"France wouldn't be what it is today if the generations that came before us hadn't taken to the streets," said Lidwine Mure, a 32-year-old teacher who took part in all six Paris protests since September. Her dark clothes were a collage of pro-strike stickers.

Some 1.1 million people joined 260 protest marches across France on Tuesday, according to the Interior Ministry, though trade unions put the figure at three times that.

The Paris march, which drew some 60,000 people according to police, was peaceful despite a morning of violence at a high school on Nanterre, just west of the French capital, where several hundred youths threw stones at police and scuffled with outsiders. Police, lobbing tear gas, charged and barricaded the area. An Associated Press photographer was knocked off his motorbike and punched by the youths.

Islamic militants raid Chechen parliament, 6 dead

GROZNY, Russia (AP)—Islamic insurgents attacked Chechnya's parliament Tuesday in a brazen suicide raid that left six people dead and 17 wounded, defying Kremlin claims of stability in the volatile southern region.

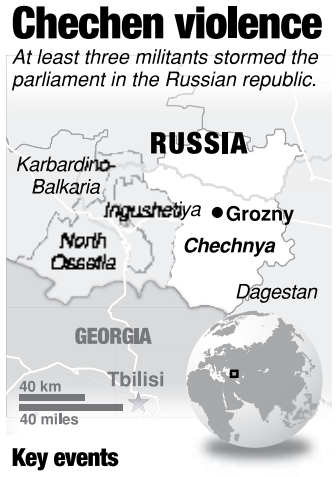
In a clear challenge to Moscow, the raid occurred just as Russia's interior minister was visiting the provincial capital of Grozny.

The three attackers drove to the tightly guarded parliament complex and got inside. One militant blew himself up at the doors and another two ran into the building shouting "Allahu akbar!"—"God is great!" in Arabic—as they opened fire on the people inside, said Chechen police spokesman Ramzan Bekkhoyev.

The regional chief prosecutor's office said the remaining two attackers also blew themselves up after exchanging fire with police, while other officials said they were killed in a gunbattle. Two police officers and a civilian government employee were killed in the raid and 17 others were wounded, prosecutors said.

Bloodstains, body parts and a decapitated corpse were still scattered outside the building hours after the attack as police and special forces backed by armored vehicles patrolled the area.

An Associated Press reporter at the parliament saw ambulances take away two bodies, along with the severed head of a militant.


Chechen violence
At least three militants stormed the parliament in the Russian republic.
RUSSIA
Karbardino-Balkaria
Ingushetiya
Grozny
Chechnya
North Ossetia
Dagestan
GEORGIA
Tbilisi
40 km
40 miles
Key events
1991 Separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev declares independence
1994-1996 First Chechen war kills about 100,000 people; peace treaty the following year does not resolve independence issue
1999-2000 Second Chechen war: Russia sends troops, reimposes control over the republic
2002 Chechen rebels hold 800 hostage in a Moscow theater; Russian troops storm the building, killing about 120 people
2004 Chechen President Akmad Kadyrov killed in a bomb blast; in a separate incident, Chechen rebels seize a school in Beslan; hundreds die in raid that followed
2009 Russia declares end to decade-long security operation
2010 In March, Chechen suicide bombers kill 39 on Moscow subway; in October, rebels shouting Islamist slogans attack parliament
Source: Reuters, BBC, ESRI
© 2010 MCT

Chechnya's Moscow-backed regional president, Ramzan Kadyrov, sought to play down the attack, saying the assailants were killed quickly. His office said Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and President Dmitry Medvedev called him to offer assistance. Medvedev, on a visit to France, was briefed about the attack by Russian security officials.

In Washington, the U.S. offered condolences to the families of the dead and wounded.

"We also express our solidarity with Russia in the struggle against terrorism. We're concerned about continued violence in Russia's North Caucasus, which contributes to instability and personal insecurity in the region," said State Department spokesman Mark Toner. "Several independent non-governmental reports confirm that the level of violence has increased in 2010 in several North Caucasus regions, and we've been following these events closely."

Kadyrov and Russia's Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev attended a parliament session shortly after the raid. Nurgaliyev said the insurgents had tried to get into the main parliamentary chamber.

"As always, they failed. Unfortunately, we were not able to avoid loss of life," Nurgaliyev said. "The situation we saw today is extremely rare. Here, there is stability and security."

Kadyrov, a former rebel, has recruited many ex-militants into his feared security forces. The bullnecked 34-year-old former militia chief also sought to blunt the rebels' appeal with a massive construction boom in Chechnya and a campaign to impose strict Islamic values.

WORLD BRIEFS

Victims pleaded for lives before being murdered

BELLEVILLE, Ontario (AP)—The commander of Canada's largest air force base stalked, repeatedly raped and killed two women as they pleaded for their lives, prosecutors said Tuesday at the colonel's sentencing hearing. Col. Russell Williams, who once flew prime ministers and served as a pilot to Queen Elizabeth II during a 2005 visit, pleaded guilty Monday to two first-degree murder charges, two sexual assaults and 82 breaking-and-entering charges during which he stole lingerie belonging to teen girls and young women. The 47-year-old faces an automatic sentence of life in prison with no possibility of parole for at least 25 years. Lawyers have used the sentencing hearing to reveal details of the crimes.

UK ex-prime minister Thatcher admitted to hospital

LONDON (AP)—Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has been admitted to the hospital following a recent bout of flu, officials said Tuesday. Prime Minister David Cameron's office said he wished the former leader a "speedy recovery." "We understand from Lady Thatcher's office that she has been admitted to hospital for precautionary tests following her recent bout of flu," a Downing Street statement said. Thatcher, who was prime minister from 1979 to 1990, had to skip a reception in honor of her 85th birthday last week because of the flu. She wrote a letter of apology to the 150 friends and colleagues who attended the reception, which was hosted by Cameron at 10 Downing Street.

Google to bring Dead Sea Scrolls online

JERUSALEM (AP)—The Dead Sea Scrolls, among the world's most important, mysterious and tightly restricted archaeological treasures, are about to get Googled. The technology giant and Israel announced Tuesday that they are teaming up to give researchers and the public the first comprehensive and searchable database of the scrolls—a 2,000-year-old collection of Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek documents that shed light on Judaism during biblical times and the origins of Christianity. For years, experts have complained that access to the scrolls has been too limited. Once the images are up, anyone will be able to peruse exact copies of the original scrolls as well as an English translation of the text on their computer—for free. Officials said the collection, expected to be available within months, will feature sections that have been made more legible thanks to high-tech infrared technology.

Environment

AP ENTERPRISE:

Scientists lower Gulf health grade

ST. PETE BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Six months after the rig explosion that led to the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history, damage to the Gulf of Mexico can be measured more in increments than extinctions, say scientists polled by The Associated Press.

In an informal survey, 35 researchers who study the Gulf lowered their rating of its ecological health by several points, compared to their assessment before the BP well gushed millions of gallons of oil. But the drop in grade wasn't dramatic. On a scale of 0 to 100, the overall average grade for the oiled Gulf was 65—down from 71 before the spill.

This reflects scientists' views that the spilled 172 million gallons of oil further eroded what was already a beleaguered body of water—tainted for years by farm runoff from the Mississippi River, overfishing, and oil from smaller spills and natural seepage.

The spill wasn't the near-death blow initially feared. Nor is it the glancing strike that some relieved experts and officials said it was in midsummer.

"It is like a concussion," said Larry McKinney, who heads the Gulf of Mexico research center at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. "We got hit hard and we certainly are seeing some symptoms of it."

Will the symptoms stick around or just become yesterday's headaches? That's the question that couldn't be answered at a conference earlier this month of 150 scientists at a hotel on a Florida beach untainted by the spill. The St. Pete Beach gathering was organized by the White House science office to coordinate future research.

"There's the sense that it's not as bad as we had originally feared; it's not that worst case scenario," said Steve Lohrenz, a biological oceanographer at the University of Southern Mississippi. "There's still a lot of wariness of what that long-term impact is going to be."

Steve Murawski, the chief fisheries scientist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, compared scientists research to a TV crime drama: "It's the end of the story that counts, not all the steps along the way."

We're only at the 30-minute break in an hour-long drama, Murawski said.

And there's a plot twist. Research findings already released have led scientists and the government to shift their focus from the sea's surface to deeper waters and the ocean bottom.

A month-long cruise by Georgia researchers on the ship Oceanus reported oil on the sea floor that they suspect is BP's but haven't proven yet. Government officials still question whether there is oil on the sea floor, but the Georgia scientists say the samples smelled like an auto repair shop. They took 78 cores of sediment and only five had live worms in them. Usually they would all have life, said University of Georgia scientist Samantha Joye. She called it a "graveyard for the macrofauna."

"The fact that there isn't living fauna is a signal that something happened to these sites and these sediments," Joye said in a phone interview Friday. "The horrible thing is they've been inundated with this oily material... There's dead animals on the bottom and it stinks to high heaven of oil."

AP

In this Oct. 14, 2010 picture, an oil-covered crab crawls on a glove worn by Plaquemines Parish coastal zone director P.J. Hahn in Bay Jimmy near the Louisiana coast. Six months after the rig explosion that led to the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history, damage to the Gulf of Mexico can be measured more in increments than extinctions, say scientists polled by The Associated Press.

University of South Florida's Ernst Peebles said the oil on the floor "is undermining the ecosystem from the bottom up."

David Hollander, also at South Florida, found some of the first plumes of the oil beneath the surface, something that government officials first disputed but now concede is real. Keeping the oil off the surface minimized damage to wetlands, beaches and some wildlife, so in some ways, "we dodged the bullet," he said.

There are several reasons a sizable amount of oil didn't make it to the surface where it could do more visual harm. For one thing, BP used 1.8 million gallons of chemical dispersants to break up the oil. But scientists give more credit to the high pressure and high temperature of the gusher that spewed the oil in droplets so tiny, they didn't float to the surface.

"We still don't know the long-term effect," Hollander said.

Scientists worry the oil deep below will get into plankton and the food web, maybe not killing species directly but causing genetic mutations, stress or weakening some species, with effects that will only be seen years later.

"I think populations are going to be affected for years to come," said Diane Blake, a Tulane University biochemist. "This is going to cause selective (evolutionary) pressure that's going to change the Gulf in ways we don't even know yet."

It was a long-term assault from the well. From April 20, when the Deepwater Horizon rig exploded, killing 11 people, to July 15 when the well was initially plugged, oil bled at a prodigious rate that BP and government officials had a hard time understanding. Initially, officials said only 42,000 gallons a day was flowing, but government scientists eventually said it was as much as 2.6 million gallons a day.

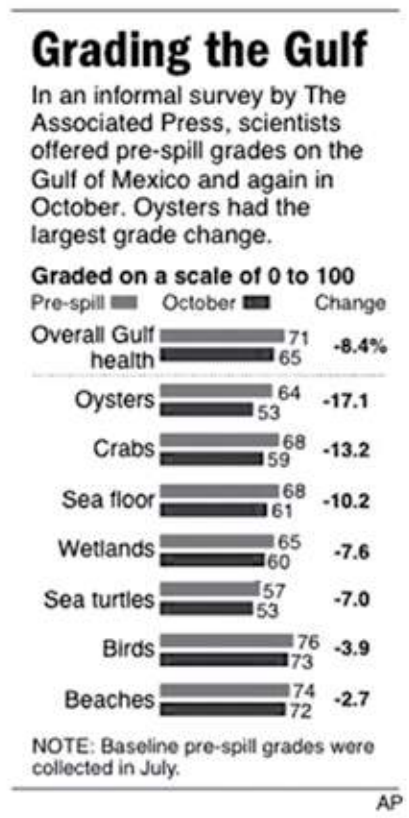
One of the species mentioned most often during two days of scientific sessions in Florida doesn't even live in the Gulf. It's herring. After 1989's much smaller Exxon Valdez spill, it took awhile for the effects on Alaska's herring to be noticed, but the once prolific species crashed to extremely low levels. While other species in Prince William Sound recovered, the herring population has yet to bounce back. And Gulf researchers are wondering if that sort of thing will happen again.

If one species in the Gulf is likely to wind up like the herring, it's probably the bluefin tuna. And answers about its fate may be sitting in a lab in Poland.

Thanks to a 30-year agreement that dates to Cold War politics, that distant lab is analyzing samples of Gulf water collected in the spill area for the U.S. government. The tests are to find out what the oil did to the larvae. The bluefin was already in trouble before the spill, its spawning stock down 90 percent in the last 30 years.

The spill, 50 miles off the Louisiana coast, happened in the precise place at just the right time to threaten the bluefin larvae bobbing on the surface. The Gulf of Mexico is the only known spawning area for western Atlantic bluefin.

"Was it catastrophic for the bluefin? Probably not," said NOAA's John Lamkin, who expects data back from Poland near the end of the year. But he added: "Any larvae that came into contact with the oil doesn't have a chance."


Grading the Gulf
In an informal survey by The Associated Press, scientists offered pre-spill grades on the Gulf of Mexico and again in October. Oysters had the largest grade change.
Graded on a scale of 0 to 100
Pre-spill
October
Change
Overall Gulf health 71 65 -8.4%
Oysters 64 53 -17.1
Crabs 68 59 -13.2
Sea floor 68 61 -10.2
Wetlands 65 60 -7.6
Sea turtles 57 53 -7.0
Birds 76 73 -3.9
Beaches 74 72 -2.7
NOTE: Baseline pre-spill grades were collected in July.

AP

Scientists participating in the AP survey were not optimistic about the bluefin. They ranked the health of the tuna before the spill at a fragile 55. That's now down to about 45.

The Associated Press initial survey in July asked Gulf scientists to give the region and several categories baseline grades for ecosystem health before the spill. The scale was 0 to 100, with 0 being dead and 100 being pristine. Seventy-five responded and the overall grade averaged 71, a respectable C.

This month, the AP asked scientists to grade the Gulf's health now; 35 scientists responded. The overall average dropped less than 10 percent, to 65, a struggling D. Scientists were asked about detailed categories and calculated the most noticeable harm to bluefin tuna, oysters, sea turtles, crabs, the sea floor and marshes.

The region's wetlands, an already weakened massive natural incubator for shrimp, crabs, oysters and fish, slipped from 65 pre-spill to 60 now.

But the oil has not pushed Louisiana's fragile marshlands to the edge of collapse.

Robert Moreau, the director of Turtle Cove Environmental Research Station at Southeastern Louisiana University, said, "Obviously, the news so far has been pretty good.

"At first, you look at the TV, you see all this oil pouring out, you think the worst," he said.

There is no comprehensive calculation for how much marshland was oiled, but estimates range from less than a square mile to just a handful of square miles. Regardless, in the big picture that's hardly alarming: Louisiana loses roughly 25 square miles of marsh each year due to a host of environmental and manmade causes. The state is the site of one of the most ferocious rates of land loss in the world.

About 390 miles of Louisiana shoreline was oiled, according to federal surveys and BP.

About 167 miles around Lake Pontchartrain basin was oiled, an important area because it buffers New Orleans. But John Lopez, the science director for the Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, said most of the affected shore saw "light or moderate oiling."

"The marshland folks I work with don't see it as something that is a major catastrophe," said Loyola University marsh biologist David White, who has studied the quiet stands of marsh for 30 years.

The oiling was minimal, but "the jury is still out," White said, on the long-term ecological effects because the massive oil spill may be rewiring the invisible and hard-to-detect inner workings of nature.

"The longer-term unknown is the impact on the food chain," he said.

Surprisingly, there are some wildlife winners from the oil spill. That's because there was a commercial fishing ban for months in parts of the northern Gulf, offering respite to some overfished species. More than 90 percent of the Gulf's federal waters are now open to fishing.

"Red snapper are unbelievable right now," said Mike Carron, head of the Northern Gulf Institute in Mississippi. "Now you could put a rock on the end of string and they'll bite it."

That's the good news for one fish. As for the future? USF's Hollander shook his head as he left the science conference: "We'll never have a full accounting of the biological impacts."

Life & Style

Tommy Hilfiger embraces the buzz of pop culture

NEW YORK (AP)—He's rocked and he's rolled—and Tommy Hilfiger has done it for more than 25 years.

Hilfiger is marking 25 years of his namesake brand this fall, celebrating with a splashy show during Fashion Week, tailgate parties and anniversary products, but his career is, in fact, longer than that: He's had a fashion gig since high school when he decided Elmira, N.Y., needed a denim store to keep up with the 1960s rock-star trends.

He opened People's Place catering to the local college crowd and everyone headed to Woodstock, and took out ads in the local newspaper boasting the best bell-bottoms and red fox jackets for "foxy" ladies. He'd promote sales as "savings for swingers."

"I wanted to build a business around all this pop culture," says Hilfiger, who ticks off music, movies, celebrity and art as the long-term common threads in his signature look that has evolved through phases of hippie, preppy, Americana and glitzy influences. Moving with the times doesn't make him or his brand inconsistent, says Hilfiger. On the contrary, he explains, it gives his collection and its customers an interesting, vibrant lifestyle that adopts more than just one aesthetic.

The style icons he admires—for their personal looks as well as their ability to tap the zeitgeist—range from Norman Rockwell to the Beatles, from Marilyn Monroe to Beyonce. He shows off just what a fan he is of the big picture around him in a new ultra-luxe $550 book published by Assouline that is, essentially, Hilfiger's scrapbook. (It's not the sort of thing that would fit on most coffee tables but you could imagine a copy on Hilfiger's table in his apartment at The Plaza Hotel in Manhattan or his estate in Greenwich, Conn.)

Scribbles in Hilfiger's handwriting explain his affinity for Steve McQueen, tartan plaid and tongue-in-cheek advertising. He's created collages that pay tribute to people, places and things that move the needle and generate buzz, but there also are personal moments—a family portrait of Hilfiger and his eight siblings, and a very Grace Kelly-esque photo of his wife Dee, for example—that do give the sense of a man with the full plate that he likes to describe.

"One of the most important things to me is to make things

AP

This Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010 file photo shows designer Tommy Hilfiger as he greets the crowd after showing his spring 2011 collection during Fashion Week in New York. Hilfiger is marking 25 years of his namesake brand this fall.

real, not have models who are perfectly groomed or clothes that are too perfect. It all has to have a twist because that's how people live."

Despite the success and fame he enjoys now, Hilfiger comes across as a very normal guy—and that's a compliment. He is approachable, affable and, on the early Saturday morning of this interview, punctual, even though he did a quick turnaround from a late-night store appearance.

Hilfiger, 59, certainly hasn't been immune to ups and downs. The brand has been bought and sold by investors with Phillips-Van Heusen Corp. as its current owner while Hilfiger has creative control.

He has been criticized—alternately—for dabbling in too-fancy, high-price pieces and for going too casual with logo-covered looks. But that seems to have tempered since Hilfiger recommitted himself to clean, modern classics a few years ago. With a booming business overseas—one that never really stopped even when the brand waned in the U.S. in the mid-2000s—Hilfiger is now exclusive in the U.S. to Hilfiger stand-alone stores, including a huge flagship on Fifth Avenue, and Macy's.

"There have been a few incarnations of Tommy himself and his brand, but what's interesting now is he's firing on all cylinders," says Durand Guion, Macy's men's fashion director. "He's come into his own. The brand has its own appeal, particularly that it's an American brand with an American sensibility. . It's not a `me-too' brand or a copycat of another brand."

There's a market out there for rugby shirts, navy blazers, chinos and cotton sundresses, and Hilfiger embraces his leading place in it.

To describe the spring 2011 collection that previewed last month on the runway, Hilfiger used the shorthand "rockabilly meets the country club set." The idea, he says, was to catch up to the larger Hilfiger family—"who is quirky, modern and slightly dysfunctional"—since 1985.

Among those in the front row were Jennifer Lopez, Bradley Cooper, Lenny Kravitz and Christina Hendricks, and they all attended a big, lavish party afterward at the Metropolitan Opera House—complete with seemingly endless chandeliers and champagne.

Bohemian landmark NYC Hotel Chelsea up for sale

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City's Hotel Chelsea, the bohemian landmark where poet Dylan Thomas collapsed in a coma before dying in 1953 and where the girlfriend of Sex Pistols bassist Sid Vicious was fatally stabbed in 1978, is up for sale, its owners announced Tuesday.

Celebrated in songs like Joni Mitchell's "Chelsea Morning" and Nico's "Chelsea Girl," the 1883 building has offered short- and long-term shelter to generations of artists and musicians. Notable residents have included Bob Dylan, Andy Warhol, Arthur Miller, Eugene O'Neill, Patti Smith, Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison.

The hotel's legacy as an artists' playground could be in doubt after the group of families that has owned it for 65 years decided to sell. They have not named an asking price.

AP

This 1996 file photo shows the Hotel Chelsea on New York's West 23rd Street in Manhattan that is for sale.

"The hotel will always continue to be a destination for creativity and art, that's what makes it so special," shareholder Paul Brounstein said in a statement. "Nothing can ever change that."

But residents said they are in the dark about the building's future.

"We have no idea yet," said Zev Greenfield, a photographer who has lived at the Chelsea since his teenage years in 1974. "The letter that came to us said nothing's going to happen in the short term." The 12-story brick building was completed in 1883 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Boasting wrought-iron balconies and a 12-story staircase, it was the city's first cooperative apartment complex when it was built but has been a hotel since 1905.

Today it has 125 transient hotel rooms where rates start at $189 a night and 101 residential units. "It's a wonderful community," said Brian Bothwell, a film editor who has lived at the Chelsea for 16 years.

Bothwell said his second-floor apartment was home to musician Leonard Cohen in the 1960s and singer-actress Grace Jones in the 1980s.

"Leonard Cohen fans knock on my door and ask to see my apartment," he said. "They want to see the bedroom."

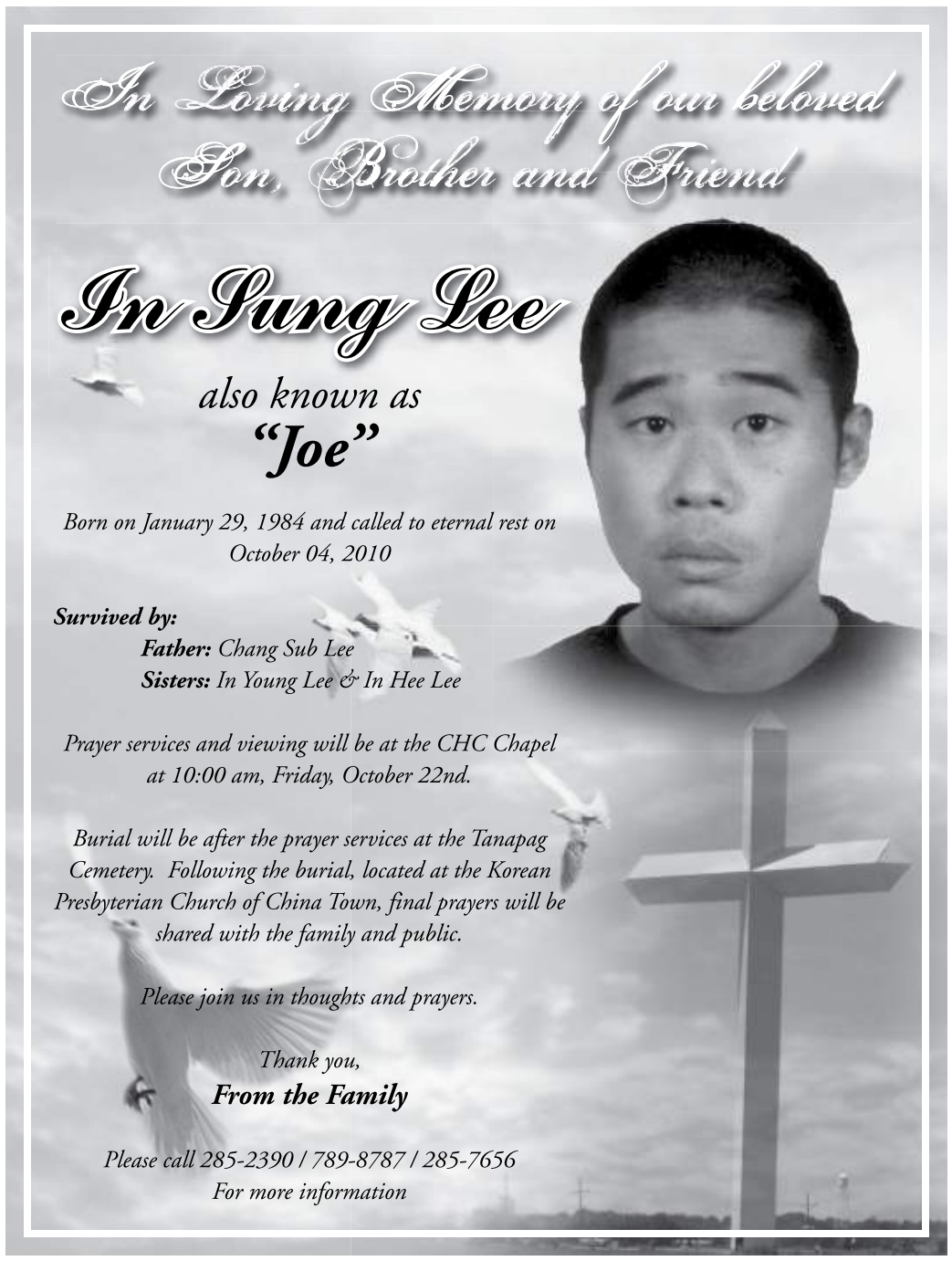
Bothwell said residents mix easily with hotel guests like cartoonist R. Crumb, a regular visitor. "A lot of the people that stay here for a night or two really respect the arts," Bothwell said.

Singer-songwriter Alejandro Escovedo was living at the Chelsea during its darkest time, when Vicious was charged with Nancy Spungen's murder. Vicious, born John Simon Ritchie, died of a heroin overdose months later while out on bail.

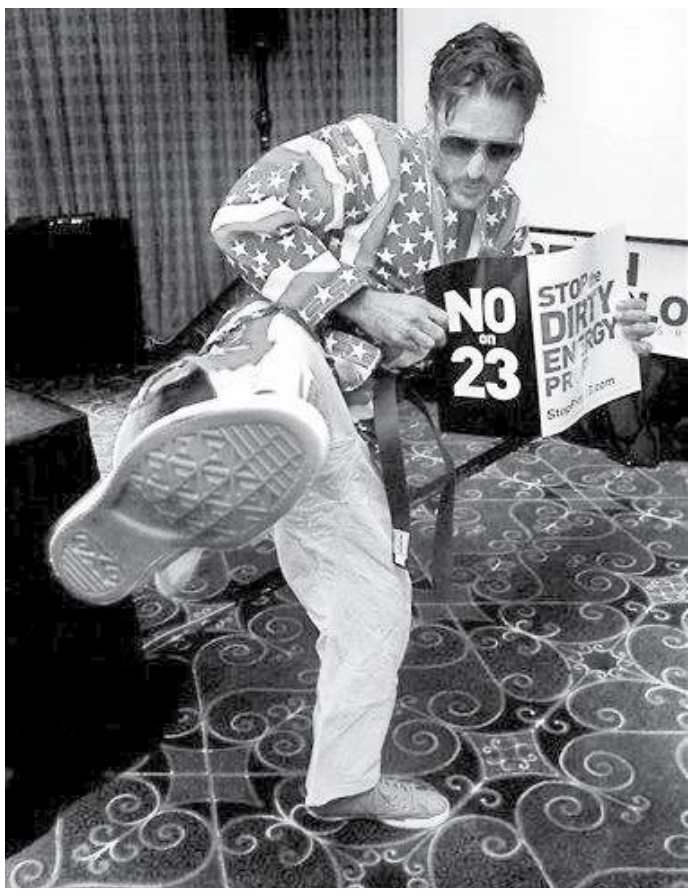
"It really kind of changed the whole atmosphere," Escovedo said by phone from Lexington, Ky., where he was touring. "There was a lot more paranoia."

Escovedo recalled riding in an elevator at the Chelsea with Vicious, Spungen, writer Quentin Crisp and fashion designer Charles James.

"I just hope it doesn't become a Starbucks or something," he said.


In Loving Memory of our beloved
Son, Brother and Friend
In Sung Lee
also known as
"Joe"
Born on January 29, 1984 and called to eternal rest on October 04, 2010
Survived by:
Father: Chang Sub Lee
Sisters: In Young Lee & In Hee Lee
Prayer services and viewing will be at the CHC Chapel at 10:00 am, Friday, October 22nd.
Burial will be after the prayer services at the Tanapag Cemetery. Following the burial, located at the Korean Presbyterian Church of China Town, final prayers will be shared with the family and public.
Please join us in thoughts and prayers.
Thank you,
From the Family
Please call 285-2390 / 789-8787 / 285-7656
For more information

Arquette joins fight to preserve Calif climate law



Actor David Arquette executes a martial arts kick to promote a series of online videos opposing Proposition 23, following a news conference in Sacramento, Calif., Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010.

AP

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Actor David Arquette is lending his quirky star power to the campaign against a November ballot measure that would suspend California's greenhouse gas emissions law.

Wearing an American flag-print karate uniform, Arquette appeared in Sacramento on Tuesday to promote a series of online videos opposing Proposition 23.

The spots will run on YouTube and other websites and are aimed at young voters who might not be won over by traditional campaign advertising, said Jared Ficker, head of the Green Technology Leadership Group, the Sacramento-based political action committee producing the films.

In a one-minute video titled "Don't Mess With California," Arquette portrays California and proceeds to knock out a group of thugs representing Texas oil interests.

Oil companies have donated the bulk of the money to support Proposition 23. It would indefinitely suspend a 2006 California law that seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide to 1990 levels over the next decade.

Opponents of the law, set to take effect in 2012, say it will eliminate jobs and hurt small businesses. Supporters call it a long-term investment in environmental protection and green technology.

Arquette is part of a well-known Hollywood family and is best known for his recurring role in the "Scream" films. This is the first time he's been actively involved in a political campaign, he said.

"It seemed like a great way to get the message across in a very intriguing way that young voters could tune into, start talking about, send to their friends," the 39-year-old said. "It's all about getting people to the polls to vote for the future."

Arquette's personal life made headlines last week when he and his wife of 11 years, actress Courteney Cox, announced what they are calling a trial separation. The next day, the actor called in to the "Howard Stern Show" and revealed intimate details about the couple's sex life. He has since apologized.

Arquette said he was aware those revelations could serve as a distraction from his efforts on the political front.

"When I was told to come up here, that was a thought of mine," he said Tuesday. "But my belief is that the most important aspect of celebrity is you can raise awareness, lend your name and support to certain things and get people talking. And that's why I'm here."

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Red
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Mon through Thurs 4:15 7:15
Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman
Thriller, Action • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Warren Ellis' acclaimed Wildstorm comic series is adapted in this Summit Entertainment production starring Bruce Willis as a retired government hitman who gets targeted by the same outfit he once worked for. Morgan Freeman and Helen Mirren co-star, with Robert Schwentke (The Time Traveler's Wife) directing from a script by the Whiteout writing team of Erich and Jon Hoeber.

Easy A
Friday 4:10 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Mon through Thurs 4:10 7:10
Emma Stone, Penn Badgley
Comedy • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter is re-imagined as a contemporary high school comedy in this tale of a scheming student who plots to give her popularity a boost by painting herself the easiest lay in school.

Nanny McPhee Returns
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon through Thurs 4:05 7:05
Emma Thomson, Maggie Gyllenhaal
Comedy • Rated PG
Synopsis
A struggling mother receives some much-needed assistance tending to the family farm and raising a group of spirited children while her military husband is fighting overseas in this sequel to the whimsical 2005 fantasy comedy Nanny McPhee. Mrs. Isabel Green (Maggie Gyllenhaal) lives in a scenic valley with her two daughters and one son.

Life As We Know It
Friday 4:25 7:25 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Mon through Thurs 4:25 7:25
Katherine Heigl, Josh Duhamel
Drama, Comedy • Rated PG 13

My Soul To Take
Friday 4:30 7:30 10:00
Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Mon through Thurs 4:30 7:30
Max Thieriot, John Magaro
Drama • Rated R

Eat, Pray, Love
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:40
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:40
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon through Thurs 4:00 7:00
Julia Roberts, James Franco
Drama • Rated PG 13

Legend Of The Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole
Friday 4:20 7:20 9:30
Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:30
Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon through Thurs 4:20 7:20
Sam Neil, Geoffrey Rush
Fantasy, Action • Rated PG

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In excelsis D'oh! Vatican says Simpsons Catholic

AP

This undated frame from the Fox series "The Simpsons," shows the popular cartoon family posing in front of their home, from left, Lisa , Marge , Maggie, Homer and Bart Simpson.

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Homer Simpson a Catholic? Don't have a sacred cow, man.

The Vatican newspaper has declared that Homer is part of the pope's flock - a claim that is leaving "The Simpsons" TV producer baffled and amused.

"Few people know it and he does everything to hide it but it is true: Homer J. Simpson is Catholic," L'Osservatore Romano wrote in its weekend edition under the headline: "Homer and Bart are Catholic."

Last December, the newspaper also praised the show on its 20th anniversary for its philosophical leanings and irreverent take on religion.

The weekend story was the latest example of the Vatican paper's efforts to be more relevant in the last few years, and follows stories not only lauding Harry Potter but even praising the Beatles and waxing philosophical about John Lennon's boast that the British band was more popular than Jesus.

The paper quoted an analysis by a Jesuit priest, the Rev. Francesco Occhetta, discussing Homer's and his son Bart's conversion in a 2005 episode after meeting with a sympathetic priest, Father Sean, voiced by actor Liam Neeson.

L'Osservatore says the analysis shows that behind the TV program's jokes are themes "linked to the sense and quality of life."

"'The Simpsons' remain among the few programs for children in which the Christian faith, religion and the question of God are recurring themes," it said. "The family recites prayers together before meals and, in its own way, believes in heaven."

While noting that "The Simpsons" often takes jabs at religious figures, it said parents should not be afraid to let their children watch "the adventures of the little guys in yellow."

But the show's producer told Entertainment Weekly the Vatican may have gone a step too far in its analysis of the satire, noting that Homer and Bart only consider converting in the 2005 episode.

"My first reaction is shock and awe, and I guess it makes up for me not going to church for 20 years," EW.com quoted executive producer Al Jean as saying.

Nicole Smith jury ends Day 6 of deliberations

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After six days of deliberations, the jury in the Anna Nicole Smith drug conspiracy case went home Tuesday without sending word if they are close to returning verdicts in the complex trial.

The panel is working to reach 21 separate decisions in the case of Smith's lawyer-boyfriend, Howard K. Stern, and Doctors Sandeep Kapoor and Khristine Eroshevich. While the criminal complaint contains 11 charges, each defendant is charged with some but not all of the counts. There are multiple charges against each defendant, and if any one of them is found guilty of a conspiracy count, the jury must answer a list of questions saying what it believes they conspired to do.

Jurors are asked, for instance, to answer true or not true to whether the defendants "conspired to unlawfully prescribe, administer or dispense a controlled substance to an addict."

In addition, they must decide individual charges involving specific drugs and allegations of the use of false names to give Smith medications.

Legal experts say it's not surprising the six women and six men are taking a long time to make their decisions.

"There are multiple defendants, a complicated, lengthy verdict form, complex jury instructions," said attorney Dana Cole, who is not involved in the Smith case. "And if you don't have unanimity on the jury, that could make it all the longer."

He said it is not unusual to have multi-day deliberations in long criminal cases. Testimony and arguments lasted nine weeks.

Defense attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr., who also has no role in the Smith case, said the jury is probably "very conscientious."

"You have a very serious case where people could go to jail and could lose their licenses," Mesereau said. "The jury knows that. They're probably taking their job very seriously."

The outcome also is expected to reverberate among doctors and pain management patients whose need for drugs is at the heart of California laws under which the defendants are charged.

At the end of Tuesday's session, the jury had been talking for 30 hours.

Reluctant Florence Henderson leaves 'Dancing'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It took Florence Henderson 11 seasons to join "Dancing With the Stars," and now the TV icon has done her last tango.

The 76-year-old actress, a fan of the hit ABC show since it premiered, was dismissed from the ballroom Tuesday.

"I have been in TV for over 50 years, and I have to say in all honesty that this is one of the best-produced shows I've ever been on," she said after learning her fate. "I've loved this show since it began. I think it's just a tremendous show. I hope I've inspired people to get up off their behind and move and dance and live and enjoy life."

Henderson shocked many of her "Brady Bunch" fans with her sassy antics during her five weeks on "Dancing." She flashed her bra and abs during the season's premiere episode and performed a few sexy numbers with her professional partner, Corky Ballas.

The two earned their highest score of the season on Monday's episode, when they performed a tango to "The Brady Bunch" theme. But viewers failed to keep them afloat.

AP

In this publicity image released by ABC, Florence Henderson, left, and her partner Corky Ballas perform during the celebrity dance competition series "Dancing with the Stars," Monday, Oct. 18, 2010, in Los Angeles.

Viewer votes are combined with judges' scores to determine which celebrity is ousted each week.

David Hasselhoff, Michael Bolton, Margaret Cho and Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino were eliminated on previous episodes.

Tuesday's show also featured musical performances by Shakira, who sang her new song "Loca," and Jason Derulo, who performed his single, "In My Head," and "Georgia On My Mind."

Returning to dance Monday are actors Kyle Massey and Jennifer Grey, singer-actress Brandy, athletes Rick Fox and Kurt Warner, reality star Audrina Patridge, and Bristol Palin.

Elton John says America needs more compassion

NEW YORK (AP)—Elton John says he's heartbroken by a mean tone that he says is enveloping America.

John spoke at his annual Elton John AIDS Foundation benefit Monday night and honored the memory of AIDS activist Ryan White, who died 20 years ago. The teen contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion and faced ostracism and discrimination. White worked to combat prejudice and ignorance associated with the disease until his death.

John and White became close friends during White's crusade; John said White is the reason why he started his foundation, which has doled out tens of millions of dollars to AIDS-related causes.

AP

Sir Elton John, left, and husband David Furnish attend the Ninth Annual Elton John AIDS Foundation benefit 'An Enduring Vision' at Cipriani Wall Street on Monday, Oct. 18, 2010 in New York.

However, the legendary singer said some things have not changed since White died in 1990.

"I'm saddened and disturbed to realize we are still dealing with the same problems," John said.

"Ryan White was an amazing boy who had no prejudice, no bitterness," he added. "God do we need that kind of thing in America at this moment."

The British superstar professed his love for the United States, but said there is an increasing hostility in the country that "breaks my heart."

Speaking before a crowd that included Hugh Jackman, Anderson Cooper, Christina Ricci and Billie Jean King, John condemned people who say "ridiculous horrible things" without thinking of the consequences of what they are saying.

Donny and Marie Osmond to bring songs to Broadway

AP

In this April 2, 2009 file photo, sibling performers Donny Osmond, left, and Marie Osmond pose together following a performance at the Flamingo Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas.

NEW YORK (AP)—He's a little bit rock 'n' roll, she's a little bit country. Together, they're going to be a whole lot of Broadway.

Donny and Marie Osmond will be appearing in a Christmas show at the Marriott Marquis Theatre starting Dec. 9. The 12-performance run ends Dec. 19.

The show, titled "Donny & Marie—A Broadway Christmas," marks the first time the siblings have shared a Broadway stage. They'll be singing favorite hits and holiday songs with a live band.

Donny starred in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in Toronto for six years and made it to Broadway as Gaston in "Beauty & The Beast." Marie made her Broadway debut in 1997 as Anna in "The King and I" and toured as Maria in "The Sound of Music."

Adrien Brody sues over release of thriller film

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Adrien Brody has sued the makers of a thriller film for more than $2 million, claiming he hasn't been fully paid for the project and the movie is being released in the United States without his permission.

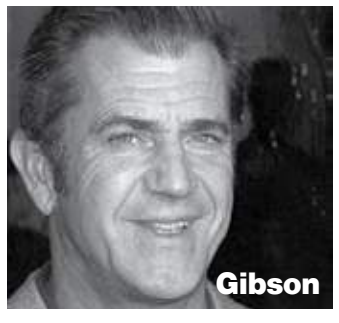
The Academy Award-winning actor sued the makers of "Giallo" in federal court in Los Angeles on Thursday, but an emergency petition to stop the film's DVD release was denied.

Sales of the thriller set in Turin, Italy, began Tuesday, although an attorney for the filmmakers said it has been available for rent since early September. "Giallo" was shot in 2008.

A judge ruled Brody can still seek an injunction against the film's sale, but must first notify the filmmakers.

Brody

AP source: Mel Gibson gets cameo in 'Hangover 2'



Gibson

NEW YORK (AP)—Mel Gibson will make a cameo in "The Hangover 2" as a tattoo artist.

Gibson's role, which was first reported by the New York Post, was confirmed Tuesday by a person close to the production, who requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to comment publicly on the matter. The film, a sequel to the 2009 hit comedy "The Hangover," is beginning production, with a release scheduled for May 2011.

Warner Bros., which is distributing the film, declined to comment.

Measure of a man doesn't always turn on height

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Regarding the letter from "Lost in the Land of Aloha" (Sept. 1) and whether short men are considered less desirable—height is relative. I am 5'3" and dated taller men, usually 6 feet and over, because those were the guys who just were around and seemed to be attracted to me.

Then I met my husband. He's 5 feet 6 inches and absolutely wonderful. Before me, he dated much taller women. He's kind, loving, showers me with affection, offers me understanding, is a fantastic father and a complete kid-magnet. He cooks, washes dishes, does laundry, changes diapers, and actually picks things up off the floor instead of vacuuming around them. I am the luckiest woman on this planet, and I know it.

Never pass up a short guy. They're not short—they're fun-sized!

VERY, VERY HAPPY WIFE IN TEXAS

DEAR WIFE: I received a tsunami of responses to my question, "Does height really matter?" And it shows there's no "shortage" of support for men like "Kal" ("Aloha's" friend) and your honey of a husband. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are both 5 feet 6 inches. In the past I was concerned that we didn't fit the stereotype of the man being taller than the woman, but it has actually worked out great. We can switch cars without having to adjust the seats and mirrors. Our lips line up exactly when we kiss. I never have to stand on my toes! On our wedding day, I wore gorgeous ballet flats. "Kal" will eventually find a woman who appreciates him for the breadth of his heart and not the length of his body.

SEEING EYE TO EYE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ABBY: It's all a matter of personal preference. I need to think the man I'm with will be able to protect me if need be. I don't have that feeling with a short guy. And it doesn't matter how muscular he is—it's the height that counts in my mind.

LIKES LOOKING UP AT THE GUY

DEAR ABBY: You bet a man being tall makes a difference. I'm an average-sized bachelor who works around many attractive women. I get plenty of flirting and interest, but every time I meet one of my co-workers' husbands, he's a tall athletic stud. That's just the way it goes.

THE SHORT OF IT IN LONGMONT, COLO.

DEAR ABBY: This may seem shallow, but height does matter to me. I'm a tall woman, and when I date men who are shorter than I am, I feel even bigger. It makes me uncomfortable, which does not make for a good date.

TALL DRINK OF WATER IN EUGENE, ORE.

DEAR ABBY: Aren't you aware that the vast majority of females prefer taller men? "Heightism" is a rampant and virulent prejudice. Even if a guy is an inch or two taller than the woman, he will be considered too short if he isn't taller than she is when she's wearing heels.

Women go gaga over the really tall guys. I can't count the number of times I've heard them brag about how tall their man happens to be. I have never heard a female boast, "My boyfriend's only 5 feet 6, but he really is all man."

ROLAND IN MAINE

DEAR ABBY: Does height matter? Not a whit! I'm a 6-foot-2-inch guy. The men who catch my eye are in the 5-foot-7 to 5-foot-9-inch range, but I certainly don't draw the line. Shorter guys? Bring 'em on! (One at a time, though.)

DON IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: No matter how tall or short you are, the most important thing in a relationship cannot be measured: It's LOVE.

WISE ONE IN YUKON, OKLA.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price)

Pastimes

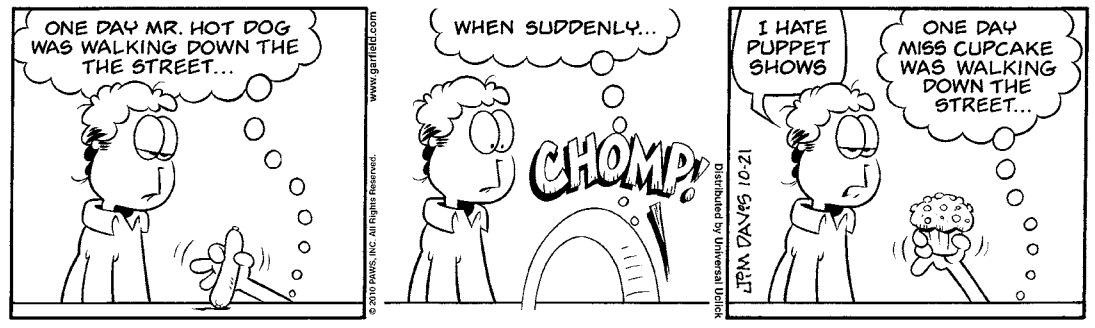
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HOBBES, DO YOU THINK OUR MORALITY IS DEFINED BY OUR ACTIONS, OR BY WHAT'S IN OUR HEARTS?
I THINK OUR ACTIONS SHOW WHAT'S IN OUR HEARTS.
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
I RESENT THAT!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


ONE DAY MR. HOT DOG WAS WALKING DOWN THE THE STREET...
www.garfield.com
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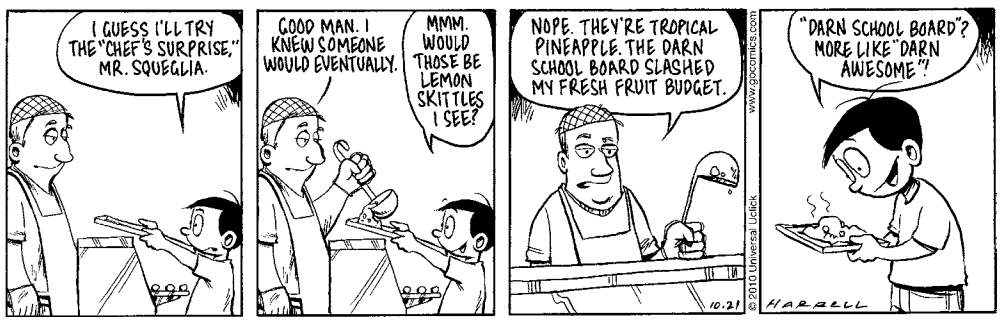
WHEN SUDDENLY...
CHOMP!
I HATE PUPPET SHOWS
ONE DAY MISS CUPCAKE WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET...
JIM DAVIS 10-21
Distributed by Universal Uclick

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I GUESS I'LL TRY THE "CHEF'S SURPRISE," MR. SQUEGLIA.
GOOD MAN. I KNEW SOMEONE WOULD EVENTUALLY.
MMM. WOULD THOSE BE LEMON SKITTLES I SEE?
NOPE. THEY'RE TROPICAL PINEAPPLE. THE DARN SCHOOL BOARD SLASHED MY FRESH FRUIT BUDGET.
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www.gocomics.com
10.21
"DARN SCHOOL BOARD"? MORE LIKE "DARN AWESOME"!
HARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

BUY MORE BEER
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S MORE ANNOYING: THAT WE HAVE A GHOST LIVING IN OUR FRIDGE OR THAT HE REFUSES TO USE OUR STICKY-NOTES!!
10-21
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Uclick

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

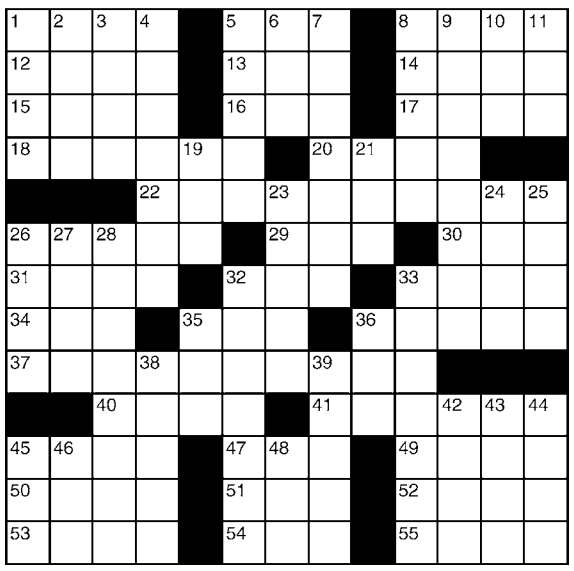
ACROSS
1 Slender nail
5 Blond shade
8 Police action
12 Doily material
13 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
14 Grooving on
15 Shrek, e.g.
16 Commotion
17 Morse morsel
18 Paging device
20 Let gravity take over
22 Game show hosted by Steve Harvey
26 Board meeting prop
29 Payable
30 Hit the slopes
31 Tax
32 Edge
33 Goblet feature
34 Prior to
35 Egg — yung
36 No longer fashionable
37 Michael J. Fox sitcom
40 Novelist Seton
41 "Step on it!"
45 Throw hard
47 Writer Deighton
49 Tittle
50 Met melody
51 A pair
52 Cheese choice
53 Rodents do it
54 Nevertheless
55 Colonial sewer

DOWN
1 Amorphous mass
2 Anger
3 Farm fraction
4 Cook onion rings, maybe
5 More than just startle
6 Blue
7 Thug
8 Done with, once and for all
9 Poetic feet
10 Part of TGIF
11 Play- —
19 Dine
21 "Catcher in the —"
23 Fool
24 String instruments
25 It ain't worth a nickel
26 Staff leader?
27 Zeus' sister
28 Rosary recital
32 Kings and queens
33 More impertinent
35 Aviate
36 Shell game prop
38 Acquired relative
39 Otherwise
42 — list
43 Hellenic H's
44 St. Louis team
45 Crone
46 Grecian vessel
48 Lamb's dam

Solution time: 25 mins.

		D	A	D			M	O	M			
	R	O	D	E		C	A	R	E	D		
I	O	W	A	N		A	R	E	N	A	S	
M	A	R	R	I	E	D	C	O	U	P	L	E
P	R	Y		Z	E	R	O	S		P	E	T
			D	E	L	E			P	L	E	A
	C	A	N	N	Y		F	L	E	E	T	
N	O	V	A			F	O	U	R			
A	B	A		F	L	I	N	G		F	L	U
B	R	I	D	E	A	N	D	G	R	O	O	M
	A	L	U	M	N	I		A	E	S	O	P
		S	L	U	G	S		G	I	S	T	
			E	R	E			E	N	E		

Yesterday's answer 10-21



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matt Dallas, 28; Kim Kardashian, 30; Carrie Fisher, 54; Judge Judy Sheindlin, 68

Happy Birthday: You are likely to be faced with emotional decisions. Try not to wear your heart on your sleeve. Control whatever situation you face rather than allowing others to twist things around. It's being aware that will help you stay ahead of everyone else. Change can be good. What appears to be a hindrance will be a blessing. Your numbers are 5, 9, 14, 25, 27, 36, 40

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Let go of relationships that are not a benefit. Moving on will allow you to befriend someone new with something to offer or share with you. Expressing confidence will help you get ahead. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take heed of what's being said and make sure you do things by the book. Stand tall and speak your mind. Don't be afraid to put pressure on someone you don't feel is measuring up to your standards. It's time to move forward. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You may think opportunity is knocking but, at the same time, you can expect a tailspin that will leave you confused. Insincere gestures of friendliness are apparent. Don't offer private information unless you don't care if it is made public. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): There is a time and place for everything and, although you will be a little emotional, take advantage of any possibility. A romantic connection is evident and, whether it is with someone you are already involved with or someone new, the forecast is superb. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't give in to someone who is bossy or standing in the way of your personal progress. Love issues may surface due to jealousy or possessiveness. It's time to make a decision about the future of a relationship. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take the lead position in whatever event, project or activity you are participating in and you will make new friends and get credit for your contribution. A change in your current income is apparent and is likely to come to you as a surprise, gift or bonus of some sort. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't underestimate what a partner or competitor will do in order to come out on top. Protect your assets as well as your well-being. Problems at home will result in uncertainty and confusion. Don't show your true feelings. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take action, make changes and concentrate on your goals. Take advantage of any opportunity to network. Plan to spend some quality time with someone you love or whose company you enjoy. There is plenty you will discover. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Give some thought to the people who have supported you. You may want to do something nice to show your appreciation. A surprise will help to seal a deal. Don't give in to someone who has disappointed you in the past. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Use your will power and you will accomplish all you set out to do. Don't let someone burden you with something that is not your problem. Put any emotional entanglement in your life on the back burner. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't get mixed up with the wrong crowd. Get serious about something that can help you earn more money or improve your living arrangements. Stick to the rules or you'll pay the price. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Being passionate about what you do or how you handle a situation will lead to financial freedom. Strive for perfection and present the best possible product, suggestion or service. Your enthusiasm will inspire those around you. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are thoughtful and cautious and are always prepared for whatever you face. You are secretive and mysterious.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9		5					3	
			8			9		2
3					5		4	
	8				1	5		
		4	6				1	
	1		7					4
7		2			6			
	3					1		8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

2	1	7	5	4	9	3	6	8
4	5	3	6	8	1	7	9	2
9	8	6	3	7	2	1	4	5
6	3	9	8	2	5	4	7	1
8	4	2	9	1	7	5	3	6
5	7	1	4	6	3	2	8	9
3	9	4	2	5	6	8	1	7
1	2	8	7	9	4	6	5	3
7	6	5	1	3	8	9	2	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/20

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE WORLD OF ANIMALS **Solution: 6 letters**

R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R	A	T	S	C	A	T	S
A	H	A	M	S	T	E	R	S	R	O	H	N	I	Q
E	N	I	P	U	C	R	O	P	W	B	E	T	G	U
B	I	L	N	T	N	A	H	P	E	L	E	S	E	I
U	G	D	E	O	W	L	S	E	I	F	T	Z	R	R
F	H	O	R	M	C	J	S	D	F	U	A	E	S	R
F	T	N	A	A	A	E	O	A	R	O	H	U	A	E
A	I	K	G	T	Z	C	R	K	T	T	X	L	P	(L)
L	N	E	U	N	O	I	E	O	N	I	O	A	(I)	I
O	G	Y	O	R	G	Y	L	A	S	P	B	(O)	G	T
T	A	G	C	O	I	M	P	A	L	A	(N)	B	S	P
T	L	W	O	L	F	N	A	W	S	E	A	L	A	E
E	E	S	N	A	K	E	N	N	O	O	C	C	A	R
R	E	A	G	L	E	L	D	O	G	S	H	E	E	P
X	N	Y	L	E	O	P	A	R	D	U	C	K	S	E

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Ants, Bear, Bees, Boa, Buffalo, Camel, Cats, Cheetah, Cougar, Cow, Crocodile, Dogs, Donkey, Ducks, Eagle, Elephant, Fox, Giraffe, Goat, Goose, Hamsters, Impala, Leopard, Lion, Lizard, Lynx, Nightingale, Owls, Otter, Panda, Panther, Pigs, Polar, Porcupine, Rabbit, Raccoon, Rats, Reindeer, Reptile, Rhinoceros, Seal, Sheep, Snake, Squirrel, Swan, Tigers, Turkey, Wolf, Zebra

Yesterday's Answer: Aye Carumba

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 pair for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

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Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: 285-8119

pro se,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ZHU LI HONG, Petitioner, vs. SIMON LUCIANO R., Respondent.	))))	FCD – DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0499 **ORDER TO APPEAR AND PLEAD**

UPON CONSIDERATION OF THE MOTION by the Petitioner for an order of this Court requiring the Respondent to answer or otherwise plead herein and permitting services to be made by mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid under 7 CMC Sections. 1301 and 1302:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the Respondent shall be served by mail, **return receipt requested**, postage prepaid, by the Petitioner with the Petition for Divorce, Summons and this Order at his/her present address at PMB 2082 Box 10002.

The Respondent is further ORDERED to answer the Petition or otherwise plead in this action within thirty (30) days of the date of service of the Petition, Summons and this Order. If Respondent fails to answer, respondent or otherwise plead as ordered herein, Judgment by Default may be entered against Respondent.

This Order shall be posted on the public board at the Clerk's Office for a period of not less than two weeks.

ENTERED this 21st day of September, 2010.

Kenneth L. Govendo
JUDGE

Dated this 20th day of September, 2010.

/s/ Clerk of Court

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Private, quiet, convenient, Capitol Hill location
Like new, 5-bedroom, 4-bathroom
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Beautiful orchids, heliconia and torch ginger
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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

DWESTD

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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section

Rangers rout Yankees, near first World Series

NEW YORK (AP)—No disputing this: The Texas Rangers are routing the New York Yankees and are now just one win from their first trip to the World Series.

Bengie Molina hit a go-ahead, three-run homer off A.J. Burnett in the sixth inning, Josh Hamilton added a pair of solo drives to give him four in four games and the Rangers battered the Yankees 10-3 Tuesday night for a 3-1 lead in the AL championship series.

On a night of contested home runs, a serious injury to Mark Teixeira and more late walks by the Rangers, the AL West champions brought a little bit of the Wild West with them.

Texas, however, left no doubt with its long home runs.

"It's not a bad job for a fat kid, that everybody makes fun when he runs," Molina said.

Fans started streaming out of Yankee Stadium in the late innings, while Rangers president and part-owner Nolan Ryan smiled in his seat.

It was a costly loss for the defending World Series champion Yankees. Teixeira limped off in the fifth inning with a strained right hamstring and manager Joe Girardi said the team would likely will the All-Star first baseman on the roster with infielder Eduardo Nunez.

Game 5 Wednesday will have a rematch of starters from the opener, with the Yankees' CC Sabathia against C.J. Wilson. Since the LCS went to a best-of-seven format, 24 of the 30 previous teams to take 3-1 series leads have won pennants.

"We have bounced back many times in this year," Girardi said. "Win, and then you go from there."

While the Yankees are seeking a record 41st pennant, Texas is trying to reach its first World Series since the franchise started play as the expansion Washington Senators in 1961.

Instead of trying to avoid Cliff Lee, the Yankees can only hope to force a Game 7 and face him again.

Aiming for a Series matchup against San Francisco or Philadelphia, Texas has outscored the Yankees 30-11, outhit them 43-26 and would have swept if not for wasting a five-run lead in the opener. Nelson Cruz hit the last of Texas' four homers, a two-run drive that gave the Rangers seven homers in the series and 15 in the postseason.

Thus far, the ALCS has been a mismatch. While Texas is hitting .307, New York is limping at .198, including .154 (6 for 39) with runners in scoring position. Alex Rodriguez has been a bust against his former team, going 2 for 15 (.133) with two RBIs.

Molina's two-out homer came after an intentional walk and put Texas ahead 5-3. Molina circled the bases and pounded a fist against his chest - and left Burnett clasping hands behind his head.

"He was throwing the ball good and we decided to leave him in," Girardi said. "We liked the matchup and it didn't work out."

Robinson Cano hit a second-inning home run off the top of the right-field wall that left Cruz screaming and pointing after a fan appeared to block him from making a possible catch.

Two batters later, Lance Berkman hit a high drive down the right-field line that was clearly foul but initially was ruled fair by umpire Jim Reynolds. After a video review - just the third in postseason play since the process began two years ago - umpires reversed the call and ruled it foul. The Yankees didn't even argue.

AP

Texas Rangers' Bengie Molina celebrates after hitting a three-run home run off New York Yankees starting pitcher A.J. Burnett in the sixth inning of Game 4 of baseball's American League Championship Series Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010, in New York.

An inning after Molina homered, Hamilton added a solo shot off left-hander Boone Logan, who had just come in. Hamilton and Cruz homered off Sergio Mitre in the ninth.

Derek Holland pitched 3 2-3 innings of scoreless one-hit relief after he replaced Tommy Hunter, who was knocked out in the fourth inning.

"He settled things down a little bit until we could get into the flow of the game offensively," Rangers manager Ron Washington said.

Holland, Darren O'Day and Clay Rapada walked the bases loaded in the eighth with Texas leading 7-3. After Darren Oliver's 0-1 pitch may have glanced off Nick Swisher's back foot - there wasn't a call or argument - Swisher flied to short center on the next pitch, dropping to 0 for 9 with runners in scoring position in the playoffs. Berkman followed with an inning-ending forceout, and Oliver finished for a save.

Burnett, who took the loss, was one out from making it through six innings, more than the Yankees could have expected.

The $82.5 million man had lost seven of his last eight regular-season decisions, was dropped from the rotation in the first round and hadn't pitched since Oct. 2. Since 1952, pitchers starting postseason games with 16 or more days' of rest are now 0-11 with a 7.43 ERA in 15 starts, according to STATS LLC, and Burnett joined a list of losers that includes Roger Clemens, Catfish Hunter and Kerry Wood.

Pitching to backup catcher Francisco Cervelli, starting because he catches Burnett more often than starter Jorge Posada, the erratic right-hander had a sharp curveball and explosive fastballs in the early innings and pitched well until allowing Molina's homer.

After throwing 23 of his first 29 pitches for strikes, Burnett lost his rhythm in the third, when the Rangers scored two runs on one hit - a slow roller than didn't leave the infield. Elvis Andrus had a run-scoring groundout, and Michael Young put the Rangers ahead 2-1 with an infield single on another soft bouncer.

Derek Jeter then tripled off the center-field wall in front of Monument Park with two outs in the bottom half - about 6 inches from the top - and Curtis Granderson hit a one-hop smash off the glove of diving second baseman Ian Kinsler. The ball trickled into right field for a single that tied it at 2.

New York chased Hunter in the 26-minute bottom of the fourth. Andrus made a big play, diving in the hole at shortstop to stab Brett Gardner's one-out grounder and throw to third for a run-scoring forceout. Holland then froze Cervelli with a called third strike.

Texas put two on with two outs in the fifth. Hamilton hit a foul pop down the left-field line that a fan blocked Gardner from reaching in and grabbing in a Steve Bartman-like move, but Hamilton followed with a flyout to center, not a game-changing hit.

Teixeira was hurt legging out a grounder in the bottom half, avoiding a double play and leaving two on and one out. But Rodriguez followed with a 6-4-3 DP that ended the inning.

Vladimir Guerrero singled leading off the sixth and was on second with two outs. David Murphy was intentionally walked to bring up Molina, who hit three homers against the Yankees for the Los Angeles Angels in the 2005 AL division series. The only question about his drive down the left-field line was whether it would stay fair.

"I don't see who I'm facing," Molina said.

Hamilton's homers gave him seven RBIs in the series. By the time Kinsler added a bloop RBI single off Joba Chamberlain in the seventh, angry Yankees fans were booing.

Cain outduels Hamels, Giants take NLCS *lead*

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- Cody Ross keeps doing his best Barry Bonds imitation.

With the home run king watching and cheering from a front-row seat, Ross delivered again, Matt Cain outdueled Cole Hamels and the San Francisco Giants beat the Philadelphia Phillies 3-0 Tuesday for a 2-1 lead in the NL championship series.

Picked up off waivers in August from Florida, Ross added to his quickly growing postseason legacy. He homered three times in the first two games at Philadelphia and hit an RBI single in Game 3 to break a scoreless tie.

"He plays with no fear," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. "That's what you love about the guy."

The modest Ross insists he's far from deserving of comparisons to Bonds or Mr. October himself, Reggie Jackson.

Bochy even tinkered with his lineup, moving Ross up into the No. 5 spot. The good-natured guy who aspired to be a rodeo clown as a kid came to the plate to chants of "Cody! Cody!"

"It's an easy name to chant, that's probably why. Two syllables," Ross said. "It's been an unbelievable experience for me so far. A month and a half, two months, ago, I didn't dream I'd be in this situation. The Giants were awesome to bring me over here. It's just been a great ride."

San Francisco grabbed the edge in its best-of-seven series against the two-time defending NL champions - with two more games in their home ballpark.

Bonds, wearing his old No. 25 jersey, got the towel-waving sellout crowd of 43,320 going at AT&T Park when introduced on the field before first pitch with three other ex-Giants. He threw his arms up in the air and waved, generating wild cheers.

The Giants have never won the World Series since moving West to San Francisco before the 1958 season. They came within six outs of a title in 2002, led by Bonds' slugging.

The last time this franchise won it all was in 1954, as the New York Giants. On a team that included future Hall of Famer Willie Mays and other big-name players, it was a part-time outfielder who hit .253 in his career - Dusty Rhodes - who emerged as the Series star with two homers in six at-bats.

So far this postseason, that role of unlikely hero belongs entirely to Ross, an outfielder with a lifetime .265 mark. Ross and Rhodes both played seven seasons and reached the postseason just once.

"He's our spark plug," Aubrey Huff said.

Ross hit an RBI single in the fourth inning to break a scoreless tie and fellow playoff first-timer Huff followed with a run-scoring single.

"He's definitely hot," Hamels said. "He's been battling and hitting pitches that most normal people can't hit at this time."

The answer?

"Hit him," Hamels kidded.

This marked the third impressive pitcher's duel in as many games of this NLCS. First, it was Roy Halladay vs. Tim Lincecum, then Roy Oswalt and Jonathan Sanchez.

Joe Blanton will start for the Phillies in Game 4 on Wednesday night, though manager Charlie Manuel considered Halladay on short rest. Blanton last pitched one inning of relief on the final day of the season, an 8-7 loss at Atlanta, and has not started since Sept. 29.

Rookie Madison Bumgarner starts for the Giants in his first career matchup with the Phillies. He pitched the division series clincher at Atlanta.

"I would say tomorrow is the biggest game we've played so far," Manuel said.

On a beautiful and festive fall day in the Bay Area, Bochy made all the right moves.

Along with Ross moving up, Aaron Rowand earned a start in center field, then doubled and scored on Freddy Sanchez's fifth-inning single.

"We kind of had the old lineup out there and everybody battled against a tough, tough lefty," Huff said. "This guy's been mowing people down pretty much all year long, so it was a big win to come home and get the first one."

Cain allowed two hits over seven innings, struck out five and walked three in a strong 119-pitch effort.

Javier Lopez pitched the eighth and Brian Wilson finished it for his fourth postseason save and second in as many tries this series.

"Usually someone steps up but that wasn't the case today," Phillies shortstop Jimmy Rollins said. "When you get a guy on, you get him in. That's the way to jump start it."

Cain and 2008 World Series MVP Hamels each began with three scoreless innings. The left-handed Hamels didn't allow a hit until Edgar Renteria's single to start the fourth, while Carlos Ruiz's one-out single in the third was the first off Cain.

After Renteria's hit, Sanchez sacrificed him to second. Buster Posey struck out swinging and former Phillies outfielder Pat Burrell walked. Ross followed with his single.

San Francisco managed only four hits in losing 6-1 on Sunday night at Citizens Bank Park. The Giants knew they needed to do more Tuesday to swing the momentum back in their favor.

Bochy started Rowand against his former club in place of the struggling Andres Torres. Bochy said Torres would be back in the lineup Wednesday against a right-hander. When Rowand scored, the first person to greet Rowand in the dugout was Torres.

NFL, Favre meet about texts, photos

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP)—Brett Favre spoke with an NFL security official Tuesday about text messages and lewd photos he allegedly sent to a New York Jets employee two years ago when he played for the team, according to a person with knowledge of the situation.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because details of the meeting between Favre and NFL vice president for security Milt Ahlerich were not made public.

ESPN first reported the meeting, citing unidentified sources.

Commissioner Roger Goodell said previously the Vikings quarterback would meet this week with a league official about the messages and graphic photos he allegedly sent to Jenn Sterger, now a TV personality with the Versus network. The website Deadspin reported the story about the married quarterback's alleged behavior toward Sterger, who has not commented on the report.

Favre arrived at Vikings headquarters in the morning, and reporters across the street saw his agent Bus Cook drive out of the parking lot in Favre's vehicle in the afternoon about 6 1/2 hours later. Vikings players have Tuesdays off, but many of them show up for treatment or film study.

On the other side of the Twin Cities at a promotional union event, NFL players association executive director DeMaurice Smith declined to provide details on Favre's situation.

AP

This Oct. 17, 2010, file photo shows Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre (4) calling signals during an NFL football game against the Dallas Cowboys, in Minneapolis. The Vikings and Favre have endured plenty of drama already this season with the scandal surrounding Favre and the questions about his health and his performance on the field.

"I understand that he is meeting, or representatives have met or are meeting, with the league," Smith said. "When we meet and talk with players, I don't intend to play it out in front of the press."

Added Smith: "We represent every player. Our issues are to ensure that the process is fair, and we do everything to ensure that that process is fair."

The 41-year-old Favre is scheduled to address the media on Wednesday at his regular weekly news conference between games. This already would have been a high-drama week for Favre, with another return to Lambeau Field to face his old team in Green Bay. The Vikings (2-3) play at the Packers (3-3) on Sunday night.

Favre said on Sunday he's only "concerned about the next game" and that he'll let the NFL's investigation "take its course." He said he hasn't been feeling extra pressure to succeed because of the controversy.

Favre - who has consistently stonewalled media questions about the allegations against him - has seen his reputation take a hit and his record consecutive games streak get put in jeopardy, with the possibility of an NFL suspension.

"It's in the back of our heads, I'm sure, but like I said everything will take care of itself and we can only control what we can control," wide receiver Percy Harvin said Monday of the possibility of Favre missing time. "If he's here, we'll love it. If he's not, we've got his back, and hopefully he'll get back soon."

Technicals remaining an issue during NBA preseason

MIAMI (AP)—The whistle blew and Heat forward Chris Bosh immediately raised his arms skyward, his way of telling referee Dick Bavetta that he didn't foul anybody.

As far as outbursts go, it was weak.

Nonetheless, it'll cost Bosh $2,000.

It's a scene that's been repeated around the league throughout this preseason plenty of times - way too much for the liking of the NBA players association - and will likely continue when games start counting next week. Stepping toward refs, being demonstrative, even punching the air, it all falls under a newly emphasized respect-the-game umbrella that's led to a surge in technical fouls league-wide.

"The emotion of the game can never be taken out of the game of basketball," two-time reigning MVP LeBron James said Monday night. "And that's when the fans, that's when the real guys, and the people who are watching and who know the game of basketball will know there's a problem with the game.

"This game has always been built on emotion," James added. "And if we try to take that out of the game, the fans won't like it as much. And without the fans, there's no game."

Bosh could only smile after getting his technical. Charlotte's Stephen Jackson had an incredulous look on his face after he drew a technical moments earlier in the same game Monday night, unsure why he was called for traveling.

So Jackson ran to referee Rodney Mott, an absolute no-no by league decree this season.

"We've all got to make adjustments," Jackson said. "It's just something I've got to deal with. Everybody always says, `Well, they've got a target on you.' It's part of the game. I've just got to be smarter about what I say and what calls I want to talk about."

Technically, the rules aren't changing much.

The way they're being enforced seems like the bigger change.

"I could understand if somebody was yelling, cursing, saying inappropriate things, OK, that's the reason for a technical," Bosh said. "They're very quick to 'T' guys up. And I don't want to give my money away. All I wanted to know is, I wanted to talk about the call. And that was it. And his main emphasis was, put your hands down."

Never mind that the fine - which went up this season - will cost Bosh 0.000138 percent of his $14.5 million salary.

To Bosh, the bigger point was that he didn't say anything inappropriate to Bavetta, and since he maintained his cool, he wondered why that would have prompted a second whistle.

"I've seen a couple of my teammates get technicals for, I'm not going to say nothing," James said, "but really nothing."

Across the NBA, plenty of players seem to be agreeing with James' sentiments.

"I'm not surprised about the rule," Denver forward J.R. Smith said. "I mean, the refs are getting tired of us complaining. And sometimes, I think we do go a little too far. But at the same time, it's in the heat of emotion. You're trying to win a game. But I understand both sides. I don't think that would have been at the top of the list of things that needed to be done, but I think something has to be done about it."

Teams have been shown exactly what the league means during briefings with referees during the preseason. The NBA players association is planning legal action over the league's decision to issue more technical fouls for complaining, saying last week that it all amounts to "an unnecessary and unwarranted overreaction."

James sees the merit of emphasizing the policy. That doesn't mean he's sold.

James argued a call Monday night, asking for clarification and pleading his case quickly. But he did so without gesturing, without screaming, without posturing - and therefore, did so without drawing a technical.

The new Heat star says he's been very aware of the policy when deciding when to engage officials during the preseason.

"You do now. Absolutely," James said. "I'm a very emotional player. And I feel like there's times where because of my size and my speed that some of the other calls that may go to certain players, I don't get because I'm able just to bounce off of it at times. That's $2,000 for a technical these days, man. It's not really about the money, but it is. You start writing them up, it's a lot of money."

James offered a what-if scenario that he'd dread: Game 7, NBA finals, a judgment call goes against a certain player who reacts angrily. By letter of the law, that's a technical. Imagine if that decided an NBA championship.

It's unlikely, of course. Regardless, if the preseason is any indicator, referees have gotten the NBA's message.

"It's unfortunate," Bosh said. "But hopefully, it'll get better."

NFL *fines but does not suspend 3 players for hits*

NEW YORK (AP)—The NFL imposed huge fines Tuesday on three players for dangerous and flagrant hits last weekend and warned that, starting with this week's games, violent conduct will be cause for suspension.

Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison was docked $75,000 on Tuesday, while New England Patriots safety Brandon Meriweather and Atlanta Falcons cornerback Dunta Robinson will lose $50,000 each.

In the past, players were either fined or ejected for illegal hits. However, after the series of recent flagrant tackles, several of which resulted in concussions, the NFL ramped up the punishment.

Football operations chief Ray Anderson indicated the suspensions could start immediately - that is, involving play from last weekend's games. However, NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the league wanted to give teams fair warning and would send a memo Wednesday, outlining the changes.

Ravens tight end Todd Heap took a vicious hit from Meriweather that Heap called "one of those hits that shouldn't happen." Robinson and the Eagles' DeSean Jackson were knocked out of their game after a frightening collision in which Robinson launched himself head first to make a tackle. Both sustained concussions.

Robinson is appealing the fine.

"I am disappointed by the NFL's ruling," Robinson said in a statement. "I recognize the goal is to protect all players from the Pee Wee level on up. However, this was a bang-bang hit situation where I did not lead with my helmet, and therefore I will appeal.

"Although it was a violent hit, my hit did not violate the NFL's rules, and I was playing the game the way I always have. I am not a dirty player and have never been characterized as one."

Harrison was punished for his hit on Mohamed Massaquoi. His hit on Joshua Cribbs did not figure in the fine, although it also caused a concussion; the league said Monday it was permissible.

Harrison's agent, Bill Parise, called the fine "staggering" and said it would be appealed. He emphasized that neither play drew a penalty.

"I've talked to James, and he's very upset," Parise said. "He's quite confused about how to play football."

The league noted Harrison is a repeat offender; he was fined $5,000 for unnecessary roughness in Pittsburgh's win over Tennessee on Sept. 19.

In letters to the three players, Anderson said: "Future offenses will result in an escalation of fines up to and including suspension."

Massaquoi's agent, Brian Ayrault, didn't think the league was tough enough on Harrison.

"Harrison has made $20 million over the past three years, and they only fined him $75,000?" he said. "To me, that's not going to be a deterrent. The Browns are probably going to be without a starter this week. I don't think that fine is a deterrent or fair to competitive balance.

"The punishment did not fit the crime."

NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith wouldn't directly answer whether the league had consulted with the union before toughening up the penalties, saying simply that he talked to Commissioner Roger Goodell every day.

"We are going to look at this issue along with the league," Smith said at an event in St. Paul, Minn. "I am for anything that keeps our players safer. But at the same time, I don't look at everything in a simple microcosm."

Browns president Mike Holmgren said it was important to have game video reviewed by officials familiar with the nuances of tackling.

"I think most of the time you can look at a play as a coach and say, 'You know what? That didn't have to happen,'" said Holmgren, the former Seattle and Green Bay coach. "And then sometimes you look at a play and say, 'Unavoidable. It was just one of those things.'

"I don't know if they are going to make that distinction yet, and I think it's a very important distinction."

Steelers coach Mike Tomlin favored stricter enforcement of helmet hits, although he still thought Harrison's tackle on Massaquoi was legal.

"I think we need to safeguard the men that play this game to the best of our abilities and make it as safe as we can," he said.

The men being safeguarded didn't necessarily agree. Vikings defensive end Ray Edwards predicted players wouldn't change how they hit.

Futsal league to kick off Nov. 1

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will start the 2010 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League on Nov. 1 at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The futsal fall league is open to two divisions: competitive and recreational. Games will be played every Monday and Wednesday nights at the JP Center Basketball Court, while Saturday morning matches will take place at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Registration is on going with only female players in the 15-and-above age group allowed to play in the league.

The league will run for three months or until January and will be a 5-aside game.

Interested players, who have yet to find team, can register at the NMIFA office at the TSL Plaza to be listed in one of the participating squads. Registration fee is $25.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Katie Peters prepares to kick the ball during a women's futsal league game last year at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

Players who had already played in the 11-aside league last spring need not to register again, but should contact their club representatives for details about the league. Each team is allowed to have only 12 players in their rosters.

Beginners are encouraged to join the league. A boot camp will be held on Oct. 30 to prepare newcomers in the fall competition.

This will be the third year of NMIFA's women's futsal program. The 5-a-side soccer game is played in an indoor or concrete outdoor surface. Futsal rules are similar to regular soccer games, but it is a much faster game as the pitch is smaller and the ball moves quickly across the concrete surface. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Roach says Manny getting better; Arum unconvinced

BOXING

BAGUIO CITY — Trainer Freddie Roach said Manny Pacquiao is getting better. But don't tell that to the pound-for-pound king's promoter Bob Arum.

Roach made the assessment after Pacquiao put up an energetic show last Monday in his workout filmed by a crew from HBO and the country's major TV networks.

Showing flashes of the Pacquiao of old in training, the Filipino champ went through extra rounds shadow boxing, working with the mitts and blasting the speed balls at the Cooseeyan Sports Complex gym.

Pleased with Pacquiao's overall performance, Roach said his prized fighter is getting "better and better" in his buildup for next month's title fight against Antonio Margarito in Arlington, Texas.

But Arum was unconvinced.

"When I saw him train last Saturday, I didn't see the kind of speed that he would need to beat (Antonio) Margarito," the 78-year-old Arum told sportswriters.

"If the fight happened that Saturday, Margarito would win the fight."

The promoter non pareil said he believes, though, that Pacquiao will be 100 percent ready on Nov. 13, when he fights Margarito for the WBC superwelterweight crown at the Cowboys Stadium.

"He has plenty of time to get into shape and be the old Manny Pacquiao again," Arum said. "And if he's the old Manny Pacquiao, he's too fast and too talented to get beat by Margarito."

To regain his old, deadly form, Arum said Pacquiao must train harder for the fight. ***(PDI)***

MDX

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Tuesday. The MDX coach and forward were prohibited from playing against SIP after figuring in an altercation during a heated match over Cavite last Saturday.

The suspension was announced a few minutes after the SIP-MDX tip-off, leaving the defending champion shock. League coordinator Paul Madriaga said UFO officials met only last Monday thus the suspension was announced Tuesday.

A dejected MDX played like a lost lamb in the first half with shooters Bon Tamayo and Wowie Abuel uncharacteristically missing from outside and the team's big men failing to fill the void Bernardo left inside.

In contrast, SIP was fired up in the first period and took a 19-14 lead and kept the driver's seat at halftime, 42-36. SIP even padded its advantage to double digits, 54-41, before Sablan anchored a MDX rally midway in the third period.

Sablan was scoreless in the first half, as he was too cautious with driving to the basket and getting caught with fouls. The MDX wingman, who had a flu a day before the important game, was whistled with three fouls at the end of the first half.

Then after SIP posted its biggest lead, Sablan ignited a 12-0 run, canning a triple and slashing his way to the basket for a couple of acrobatic shots. Sablan had 11 points in the third period, as he and Abuel brought MDX back in the game. Abuel had seven markers in the third canto with his triple giving the defending champion its first taste of the lead, 57-56.

The third quarter ended with SIP-Mobil hanging on to a 64-62 advantage and Marvin Rabauliman made it a 67-62 count after starting the fourth canto with a three-point play.

However, SIP failed to keep the lead, as Sablan and Abuel teamed up in another rally. A triple from Abuel and two mid-air twisting layups from Sablan gave MDX a 77-71 lead, with less than six minutes left on the clock.

SIP coach Marvin Rabauliman sued for time and when game resumed, Jun Estolas made a layup to move his team within four, 73-77. But that was the closest SIP could get, as it scored only two points in a span of four minutes against MDX's seven.

MDX entered the final two minutes of the game with an 84-75 lead and kept the lead and the win after drilling four free throws in the last one minute of the match.

When the buzzer sounded, Siriban hugged Sablan for saving MDX's season.

Abuel top-scored for MDX with 26 points. He had 11 markers in the second half, keeping MDX afloat when Sablan was in foul trouble and could not get his offensive game going. Banjo Basilla also stepped up in absence of Bernardo, firing 15 markers. His undergoal basket off an Abuel feed gave MDX its biggest lead, 84-75, going into the last two minutes of the game.

Cabalen stays alive

In the masters division, Cabalen Wings-Travel kept its finals bid alive after beating MDX-Monster Energy Drink, 94-81.

Cabalen will play the loser of the VisMinda-Kids Cove and MAFEA-Ebisuya for the second and last finals seat.

Junar Guiab paced Cabalen with 34 points, making 13 in the fourth period to lead the team's breakaway. Edwin Santos added 18, while Robert Guiang chipped in 16.

Guiang logged 12 of his total markers in the third quarter when Cabalen recovered from a 42-45 deficit and grabbed the lead, 69-62.

Guiab and Sam Fernandez then picked up where Guiang left off in the fourth period, combining for 22 points in the final canto. Fernandez finished with 15 points.

First Game

Cabalen-Wings Travel 94 – Guiab 34, Santos 18, Guiang 18, Fernandez 15, Yalung 7.

MDX-Monster 81 – Tabora 22, Trajano 21, Ebuen 13, De Guzman 9, Tobias 8, Cepeda 6.

Scoring by quarters: 24-27, 45-45, 69-56, 94-81.

Second Game

MDX-Chow Queen 87 – Abuel 26, Sablan 20, Basilla 16, Tamayo 5, Fitial 4, Demapan 4, De Vero 4, Pantaleon 3, Aquino 3, Mortos 2, Lerio 1.

SIP-Mobil 83 – Estolas 26, Peredo 13, Guiab 12, Rabauliman 11, De Guzman 6, Factor 6, Muleta 5, Gapor 4.

Scoring by quarters: 14-19, 36-42, 62-64, 87-83.

OCEANIA

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Tournament at the REM Centre in Gualo Rai.

Bleaken will be the guest speaker at the opening rites, joining NMBA president Jerry Tan and Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White in the ceremony.

Bleaken's last two days on Saipan will be spent on running coaching and skills clinics at the REM Centre.

The coaching clinic targets beginners and is open to a maximum of 15 participants. The skills clinic is for all levels of players. So far, NMBA listed 80 active members with 14 of them grouped in Class A, 36 in Class B, and 30 in Class C.

Besides her school visit and the coaching and skills clinic, Bleaken is also expected to help NMBA in the administration of tournaments and creation of a local association website.

PALAXI

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pared this time. Last time I took my fight on a very short notice, but this time I am ready…all I can say is that I am coming to fight on October 29, so Sablan better be ready for war," Cruz said.

Before the main event finale between Sablan and Cruz, MMA fans will be treated to 12 exciting bouts, starting at 7pm.

The Friday fight night will kick off with a 140lb Saipan versus Saipan bout between Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique (5-0) and Team Haga's CJ "Face" Takai (2-2). This is the 19-year-old Nuique's first pro bout after winning a string of five amateur fights.

Then at 185lb, Team Predator Combat's Martin "Ning" Cepeda (1-1) will face the USA's Jason Kirklend, who will have his MMA debut.

In another 140lb brawl, Marianas Elite's Derrick "El Peligro" Rangamar (3-9) will try to test Tinian's undefeated Craig "Earthquake" Borja (3-0) of Team Zeng Zung.

Then Trench Tech's Bad Brad Palacios (8-3) will tale on Derrick "The Gladiator" Chen of Team Zalaka in a 145lb bout, followed by a 195lb fight between Team Predator Combat's undefeated Ed "Styx" Castro (2-0) and Trench Tech's Slade "The Rage" Adelbai (7-5).

After the light heavyweights, a Guam versus Japan 150lb lightweight super fight is set to take off between Guahan Top Team's Rob "The Real Deal" Wusstig (3-5) and Team Bonds' Tomoya "Katana" Kato (8-3).

Then at 180lb, Trench Tech gem Darrel "The Derailer" Salas (5-1) will take on Guam's Wyenu "One Time" Bamba (12-5) of the Kisetsu Warriors team.

After the haymaker fest, Bamba's teammate Thomas Cruz (2-4) will go up against Trench Tech's Fasi "Quickdraw" Jesse (6-2) in a 165lb middleweight bout.

Next comes a 255-lb heavyweight brawl between GTT/UX's Peter "Big Mac" Miyasaki and the debuting Moses "Big Bang" Buekis of Saipan.

Then just before the main event, USA's J.J. Ambrose (7-2) from the American Kickboxing Academy will challenge Pure-Bred Japan's Masakazu Taguchi (3-5) in a 160lb super-fight.

Trench Warz 13 will also feature two amateur fights, beginning with a K-1 kickboxing match between TPC's "Tabi" Jay Muna (4-1) and Jacob Ilo from team Zalaka. Next up is the double-debut 145lb matchup between Tinian's Joe Ray "Manglo" Manglona out of both Zeng Zuyng and Trench Tech and independent Saipan fighter, John "The Process" Moses.

Weigh-ins at Flair, Oct. 28

The official weigh-ins and rules meeting for all fighters, team managers, and corner men will take place next Thursday at the Flair Bar from 5pm to 8pm. Fans are encouraged to attend and meet and greet the fighters.

Tickets for Trench Warz 13 are still on sale for only $25. Tickets are available at Trench Tech, the 670 Rocksteady Shop, Hannam Markets, and Borderline Skate Shop.

CNMI

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memorative resolution award, citing the team's exemplary achievement deserved merits.

"The Municipal Council is very proud of our CNMI athletes, as well as all of the coaches and supportive cast that helped in their outstanding performance. I am very impressed with the number of medals accrued by our athletes. These types of results reflect the leadership and commitment to excellence of both the athletes and coaches. We should continue to invest in our youth sports programs because they promote an overall positive impact in the community by reducing crime and deterring symptoms of obesity and diabetes," Camacho said.

Camacho presented the award to Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president and CNMI chef de mission Michael White in a brief ceremony yesterday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Also present to witness the awards presentation were baseball's Rose Igitol, Tony Rogolifoi, and Bob Coldeen, and a few members of the CNMI baseball team, and swimming's Michael Moran.

The CNMI finished second in the overall medal standings after sending more than 100 delegates to Palau. The Commonwealth brought home 92 medals, 44 of which were gold—its most gold medals so far since the revival of the quadrennial competition in 1990. The CNMI also collected 23 silver and 25 bronze medals. Palau topped the medal tally after fielding about double of CNMI's total delegates.

The CNMI earned most of its gold medals from swimming. Table tennis, tennis, athletics, and triathlon also contributed several gold medals. In baseball and women's basketball, the Commonwealth won silver medals.

R.J. Macaranas Summer Golf Tour

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

R.J. Macaranas swings during a late afternoon practice.

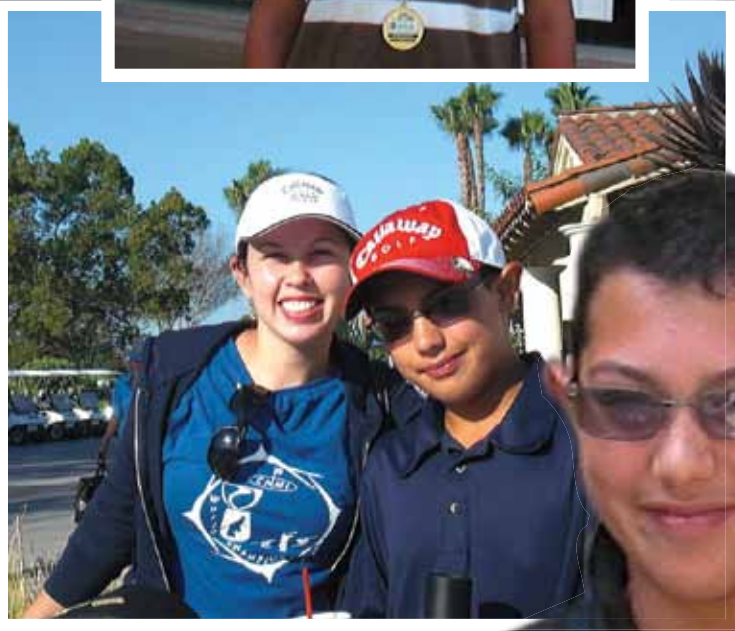
R.J. Macaranas poses with his growing collection of trophies, medals, and plaques after concluding his Summer Golf Tour last month.

Above left, R.J. Macaranas has his photo taken in front of a tournament scoreboard.

Above right, R.J. Macaranas, center, joins two other winners in the awards ceremony for the Bridgestone Summer Series Championship.

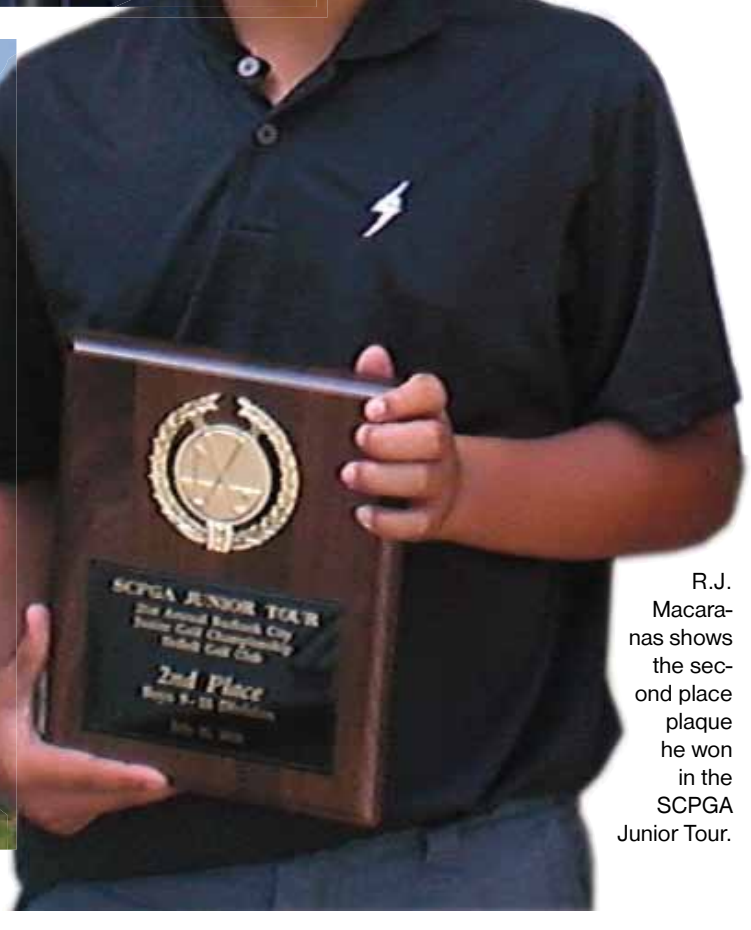
Right, father and son Richard and R.J. Macaranas pose for a photo with the CNMI flag as backdrop.

Far right, R.J. Macaranas and his mother, Becky, pose for a photo before the CNMI junior golfer heads out to the course.



Richard and R.J. Macaranas have their photo taken at the statue located at Pinehurst Resort.

R.J. Macaranas takes time out from putting to pose with a statue in one of the golf courses he played in during his summer tour.



R.J. Macaranas shows the second place plaque he won in the SCPGA Junior Tour.

MDX-Chow Queen returns to finals

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX-Chow Queen's Dave Sablan, right, shows SIP-Mobil's Marvin Rabauliman one of his acrobatic moves during the third quarter of their playoff game in the UFO caging last Tuesday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Dave Sablan indicated in his Facebook shoutout he needed to play in a do-or-die game sick or not. MDX-Chow Queen could have agreed more.

Playing sans coach Joey Siriban and forward Kae Bernardo, Sablan stepped up big time, scoring 20 points in the second half to lift MDX-Chow Queen to a come-from-behind 87-83 win over Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense-Mobil during their playoff game in the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League last Tuesday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The win earned MDX-Chow Queen a return trip to the finals against MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt.

Siriban and Bernardo will be available at the start of the best-of-three championship series next week after serving a one-game suspension last

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Oceania badminton official visits Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The new Oceania regional development manager of Badminton Oceania will be in town for three days to meet coaches, players, students, and officials of a local badminton association.

Nadia Bleaken will arrive on Saipan tomorrow and will start her itinerary with a visit at Mt. Carmel School in the morning. Bleaken will be at the Knights gym from 10am to 12pm to deliver a mini badminton program to Mt. Carmel students and teachers.

Bleaken

Bleaken was appointed regional development manager of Badminton Oceania last month. Before her appointment, she had held coaching and development roles in the U.S., Canada, and Australia.

From Mt. Carmel School, the Oceania official will head to Marianas High School and will conduct the similar mini badminton program to MHS teachers and students. Bleaken will then conclude her first day on Saipan with an appearance at the opening ceremony of the Northern Marianas Badminton Association-sanctioned 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team

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Palaxi vs Knucklehead in Trench Warz 13

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Trench Tech's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan will have a new foe in Cody "Knucklehead" Cruz of Guam's Team Underworld Xtreme when Trench Warz 13: Vengeance hits the octagon cage at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort on Oct. 29.

Cruz

Sablan

Cruz is a replacement for Guam Fight To Win's Ryan "The Dentist" Urquizu, who could not make it to the fight after breaking his nose during training. He had to undergo emergency surgery in the Philippines to correct a badly deviated septum (cartilage supporting the alignment of the nose).

"Trench Tech apologizes to all the fans and wishes Ryan Urquizu nothing but the best and a speedy recovery. We look forward to his MMA return and perhaps the much anticipated rematch sometime down the road," Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez said.

Against Sablan, Cruz will be aiming to redeem himself from a loss the last time he saw action in an MMA bout on Saipan.

Cruz fought last August in Gorilla Warfare MMA's Armageddon main event title bout against current GWM-MA middleweight champ Keli "Rukiz" Manglona. Manglona won the match in the first round, but Cruz still put on an impressive performance and came out swinging. With Cruz dropping to a much lighter weight class (165lb), he may look to put Palaxi's chin to the test.

"I am excited to be fighting again on Saipan. I want all the fans to know that I am coming hard and I am coming pre-

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CNMI delegates to Palau Micro Games honored

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council feted CNMI athletes and officials who participated in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau in August.

Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho on behalf of the council presented Team Marianas a com-

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WALTER SUTHERLAND
Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, third left front row, presents NMASA president Michael White and some members of Team Marianas with a commemorative resolution award in a brief ceremony yesterday at the conference room at Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.